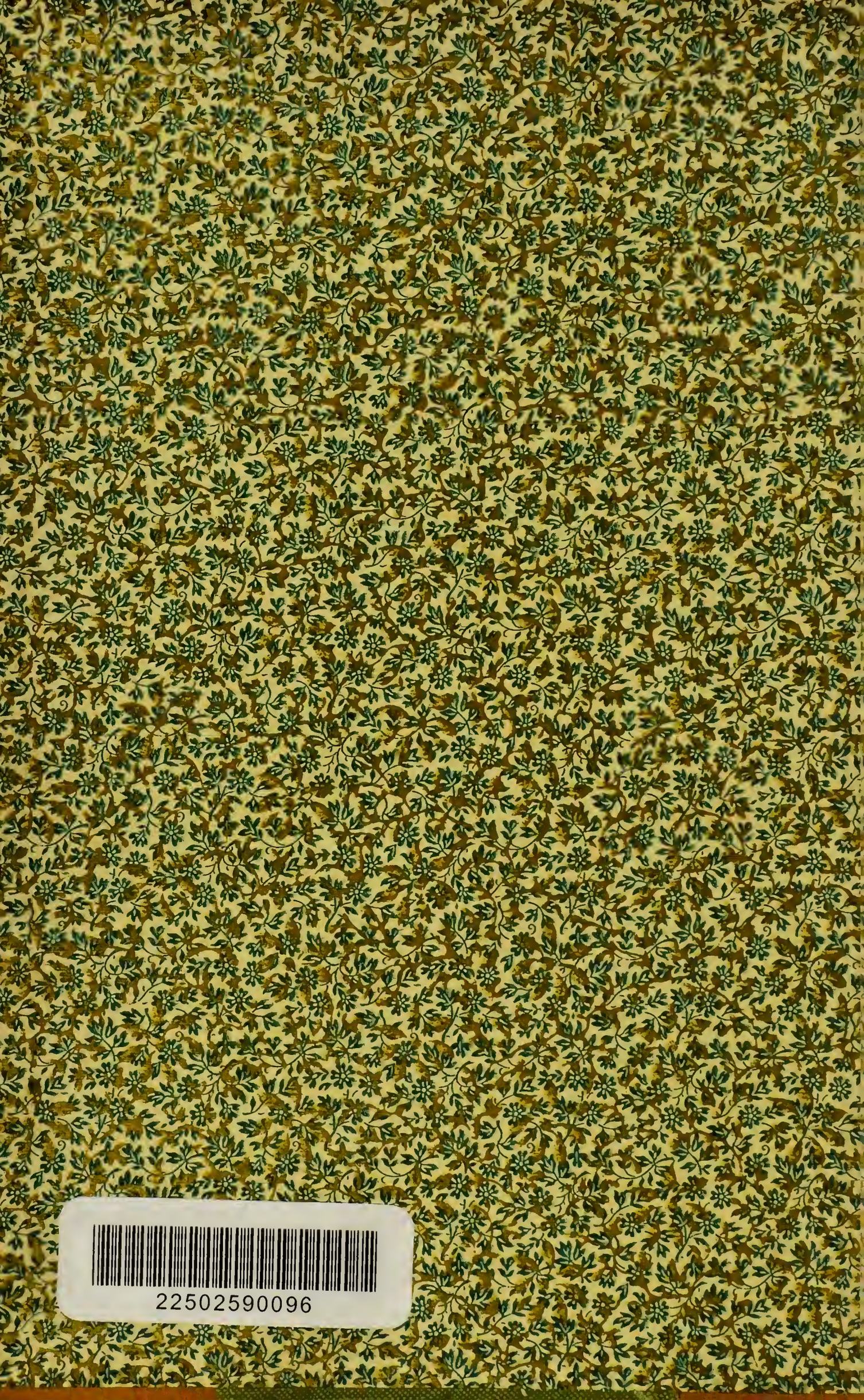

22502590096

Med
K41328

TOBACCO

O. xvi. i

9/

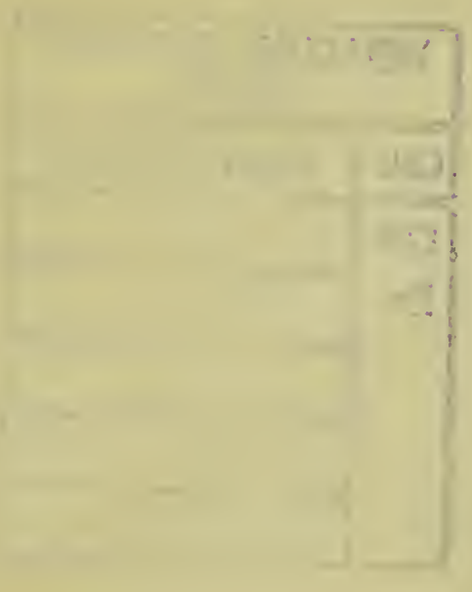
H Muspratt,
248. Earl[illegible] Road,
S.W.5

Tobacco whiffs for the fast class smoking carriage, a history of the tobacco we smoke; by a London journalist.

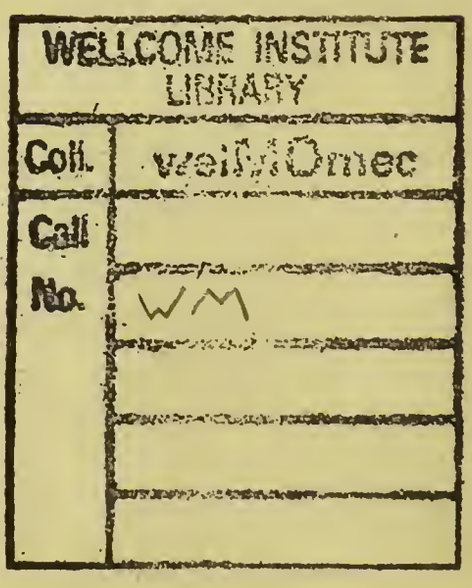
London G. Seale. 1881. 2nd ed.

H. Muspratt,
248, Earls Court Road,
S.W.5

27607



T
- 22735404



CHAPTER I.

"Cut," "Roll," and "Hard" Tobacco.

"The Old World was sure forlorn, wanting Thee!"

C. Lamb.

"The Poets of old
Many fables have told
Of the gods and their symposia:
But *Tobacco* alone,
Had they known it, had gone
For their nectar and ambrosia."

"WIT'S RECREATIONS." 1640.

"When all things were made, none were better made than THIS; to be
A LONE MAN'S COMPANION,
A BACHELOR'S FRIEND,
A HUNGRY MAN'S FOOD,
A SAD MAN'S CORDIAL,
A WAKEFUL MAN'S SLEEP,
and
A CHILLY MAN'S FIRE;
while for staunching of wounds, purging of rheum, and settling of the stomach, there's no herb like it under the canopy of Heaven."

Salvation Yeo, in C. Kingsley's "WESTWARD HO!"

"Tobacco, divine, rare, super-excellent tobacco, which goes far beyond all their panaceas, potable gold, and philosopher's stones—a sovereign remedy to all diseases."

Burton's "ANATOMY OF MELANCHOLY."

IN essaying to write a "History of the Tobacco we Smoke," including a notice of pipes, and a variety of "odds and ends" in connection with smokers, I am quite aware that such a task cannot be satisfactorily performed in the compass of a few pages. The "Literature of Tobacco" is an extensive one, and even a large volume like that published by Mr. F. W. Fairholt some twenty years ago—a most interesting work and replete with antiquarian lore—by no means exhausts the subject. I will, however, venture to believe that these brief jottings may help to pass pleasantly some smoker's idle minutes, either in the arm chair or smoking carriage, and that they will represent a fair compendium of the subject with which they deal.

And surely I cannot be more in order than in making my first note a botanical one. A comparatively modern mythology attributes a semi-divine origin to the "blessed herb." In the "Metamorphosis of Tobacco," dedicated by an unknown author to Michael Drayton, and printed in 1602, it is hymnified as

> "A worthy plant, springing from Flora's hand,
> The blessed offspring of an uncouth land;"

and Prometheus is introduced as calling a "sudden Parliament" of the Elements, and complaining that though he had not conferred the gift of "fire" (not exactly perhaps in its modern shape of fusees and Bell and Black's wax vestas for smokers) his work was not perfect. Whereupon *Tellus* (the Earth) proposes that—

> "A plant shall from my wrinkled forehead spring,
> Which once inflam'd with the stolen heavenly fire,
> Shall breath into this lifeless corse inspire."

The elements then combine to form "the herb composed in spite of fate"—the tobacco-plant, and they very nearly succeeded in making it a veritable *Elixir Vitæ;* for

> "Had not Tellus tempered too much mud,
> Too much terrene corruption in the bud,
> The man that tasted it should never die,
> But stand in record of eternitie."

Jupiter becomes enraged at this, and banishes the plant to a world unknown in Europe; and here it is hidden until the Graces travel to the New World, and are much delighted when—

> "They in the palace of the great Montezume
> Are entertained with this celestial fume."

The Susquehannah Indians, when addressed by some Christian missionaries on the origin of all things, gave them, in turn, the origin of tobacco to the following effect:—"Some hunters of their tribe having killed and cooked a deer, observed the figure like that of a young woman—really a spirit—on the hill-side, and thinking that she might be suffering from hunger, offered her some venison. She partook of it, and was pleased with its flavour, and said "Your kindness shall be rewarded; come here thirteen moons hence, and you shall find it." They did so; and found maize growing where her right hand had touched the ground; where her left, kidney beans; and where she had sat they found *Tobacco*." Indeed, as may be gathered from Hariot in his account of what he observed in the expedition of Sir Walter Raleigh in 1584, it seems that all the North American tribes attributed a divine origin to tobacco, looking on it as a special gift of the "Great Spirit" to poor mortals for their special enjoyment; and one of the tribes believed that the great Giver also indulged in smoking it himself. Hence the pipe was

held almost sacred, and smoking partook of the character of a moral, if not a religious act.

But mythology and tradition apart, and without going into the question as to whether the tobacco plant was one of the *flora* of the earlier "periods" of the existence of this planet, or whether in accordance with the theory of Darwin's "Origin of Species," it was not developed till a comparatively modern era, suffice it to say that it belongs to the great family of *Solanaceæ*, or as some botanists put it, to the "Monopetalous genus *Nicotiana*." To the *Solanaceæ* family also belong the "*Atropa Belladonna*, or Deadly Nightshade," and the "harmless, necessary" potato; and so a very large number of us are daily in contact with herbs which produce narcotic poison! *Nicotine* is a virulent poison, but fortunately it requires a *very* large quantity indeed of tobacco to produce a very infinitesimal quantity by chemical condensation, a remark which applies to *Solanine*, fearfully described as "an acrid narcotic poison, two grains of which, given to a rabbit, produce paralysis of the posterior extremities, and death in two hours." It is evident, therefore, (to anticipate a few remarks I shall presently make on the effects of smoking on health) that we may eat our daily potatoes and smoke our tobacco pretty freely without more fear of the poison which chemistry discloses, than of the prussic acid we consume when we eat almonds, the kernels of fruit stones, or apple pips, which the late Sir Fitzroy Kelly, in a very famous trial in which he defended the prisoner, boldly asserted were the cause of death in the case of a poor woman who had been barbarously murdered by other means.

Botanists recognise some forty or more varieties of the tobacco plant, varying in growth from three to fifteen feet from the ground, while there is also a dwarf kind, which grows at Vera Cruz, with leaves springing in tufts from the ground, and the flowers rising from a central stem only to the height of eighteen inches. The three principal varieties most commonly grown are the "Virginian" tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum*), which sometimes reaches the height of seven feet; the Syrian tobacco (*Nicotiana rustica*), which includes Latakia and Turkish, and does not grow so high as the American plant by about two feet; and the Shiraz tobacco (*Nicotiana persica*). The growth and flowers of these tobaccos vary in themselves, and according to locality. Tobacco being an annual, is grown from seed, which in most tobacco districts is sown in beds early in the spring; and when the plants have acquired four leaves they are planted out in the fields at a distance every way, about three feet. After a time the top of the

stem is nipped off, so that the leaves may grow larger and thicker. In about four months the plants are cut, and hung up in sheds to sweat and dry. When perfectly dry the leaves are stripped from the stalks, and made into small bundles, which are laid in heaps in the open air, and covered with blankets. After being allowed carefully to "heat" for some time, they are packed in hogsheads, bales or boxes, made of various materials, according to the country from which they come. The sorting of the leaf and making it into "bands" (bundles) are the last of a long series of difficult processes by which the planter prepares his harvest for the market, and as much depends on these as in the after-manufacture. Tobacco leaf, as an organic substance, undergoes certain decomposition and chemical transformation in its curing and subsequent manipulation, and hence from first to last very great scientific knowledge, skill, and care are necessary to bring about a satisfactory result. The tobacco crop varies much according to the season, and the young plants are particularly sensitive to frost, which in 1874 killed half the crop in Kentucky and Tennessee.

Perhaps three out of every four adults of the "male persuasion," or even a larger proportion, in this country are smokers, but few have any very much clearer conception of the production and manufacture of tobacco than they have of a variety of articles in daily use, including the multifarious substances used for food and drink. It may be generally known that the Southern and Western States of America and the West Indies supply us with by far the greater portion of the tobacco used in this country; but few persons are probably aware how many other countries contribute to our necessities in this particular. At the South Kensington International Exhibition in 1873 Messrs BRAMBLE, WILKINS & Co., the well-known Tobacco Brokers of 2 Billiter Street, E.C., exhibited no less than sixty-two varieties, representing the production of, at least, thirty different countries. This statement may give some idea of the wide-spread production of tobacco. Their sample-rooms in Billiter Street are well worth a visit, where, on an average, about 70 varieties of "leaf" can be examined, to say nothing of the hundreds of specimens of foreign cigars. The tobacco samples, generally weighing four pounds each, are from the varieties of unmanufactured tobacco "in bond," *i.e.*, in the custody of Her Majesty, who takes toll at the rate of three shillings and sixpence per pound on every hogshead (twelve hundredweight on an average), tierce, or case (two hundredweight), and bale (one hundredweight), before they pass into the hands of the manufacturers. It is very interesting to compare these samples, the different shapes, colours, and textures of the leaves, as well as their prices, which, of sound tobacco, range

from threepence to seven shillings per pound "in bond." The extent of the geographical distribution of tobacco is here fully illustrated; and there is no doubt but that it could be cultivated in many other countries—in our own, for instance—if it were not for fiscal impediments which stand in the way. In addition to the United States and West Indian leaf, there are samples of South American tobacco, such as Brazilian, Paraguayan and Rio Grande, of Turkish, Greek, Moldavian, Russian, German (Alsace), French, Hungarian, Dutch, African (Algeria), Arabian, Syrian (Latakia), Manilla, Sumatran, East Indian, Chinese, Japanese, and others too numerous to mention, while the country of our guest in 1874, the mysterious Shah, is represented by a specimen of Persian tobacco. The latter, however, is not in the market, as it has been found unsuitable for smoking by itself, requiring a hot coal on the top to keep it alight, or for mixing with other tobaccos. One sample at Messrs. Bramble & Wilkins' was procured by that firm some time ago, and, with many other specimens of tobacco, introduced as experiments from time to time, but, unrecognized in the English market, is preserved more out of curiosity than from any other reason. Tobacco brokers, it may incidentally be remarked for the benefit of my readers, are the recognized agents, as brokers in other trades are, between the importers and the manufacturers.

The varieties of tobacco chiefly used by British manufacturers are about thirty in number, but many of these are divided into classes, as for instance "Western Leaf" includes the products of several American States. As will hereafter be seen, it is in the judicious "blending" of these in "cut" tobacco, and the making of British cigars, consists the art of the manufacturer, who endeavours to suit the various tastes of the public as well as their pockets, the price of his goods being regulated by the proportion of superior or inferior tobaccos he employs in the production of his manufactured article.

But the special object of the present chapter is to describe the manufacture of the ordinary kinds of "cut" tobacco, known as "Shag," "Returns," and "Bird's-eye," while a few remarks will be added in reference to "Roll," "Spun," or "Hard" tobacco, as it is called in the trade. Among other London tobacco manufactories which I have visited from time to time in order to familiarize myself with the process employed, is that of Messrs HENRY ARCHER & Co., of 170 and 172, Borough, S.E. The Archer family has been in the tobacco trade for nearly a century, having carried on business in the borough since the year 1790; and the firm is well known as having for generations kept up a high and uniform standard of manufactured tobacco, a most interesting display of which they exhibited at the International Exhibition of 1873.

The sample-room first attracts attention. In this are the sample packets of "leaf," weighing about four pounds each, all carefully labelled, and representing the tobacco "in bond" owned by the firm. Thus, at a glance, the varieties required for the different articles for manufacture can at once be selected, and sent for to the bonded warehouses. The best kinds of tobacco are often kept in bond for two or three years, or even longer, and a large stock is alway necessary, so that the standard of uniformity in the manufactured article may be maintained. Hard by the sample room is the department for sorting and damping the leaves, the first process in the manufacture of "cut" tobacco. The leaves are carefully opened by hand-labour, and sorted according to colour, the lightest being of the mildest flavour, and the darkest the strongest, while from some the stalk is extracted, when this is not to be cut with them. They are then thrown into heaps, and from time to time sprinkled slightly with water; and these heaps, according to circumstances, remain from six hours to two days covered over with cloths, till they are soft enough for cutting. But the "cutting department" into which they next find their way is the most interesting. Various cutting machines have from time to time been used in the trade, and in a rough way of speaking, they may be compared to chaff-cutting machines. The leaf tobacco is placed in a feeding trough or box about a foot and a-half wide, from which it is drawn and pushed forward by rollers, which, subjecting the mass to a heavy pressure, cause it to present a comparatively hard body to the knife, which works across the face of the trough. Unlike, however, most modern chaff-cutting machines, the knives of which, two or more in number, are fixed on a revolving wheel, the tobacco-cutting machines now most in use have only one knife, which, working on a kind of hinge, cuts the cake of tobacco diagonally, *i.e.*, from one corner to another, as it descends upon it. The rapidity with which these machines work is marvellous, performing, if required, 300 strokes per minute; and so ingeniously are they constructed that any required weight can be put upon the tobacco, and the fineness of the cutting regulated, so to speak, to a hair's breadth. One great advantage which they possess is that they do not, like the old machines, require the tobacco to be compressed into square cakes before being placed in them, their work being continuous as long as they are duly "fed." Two of these machines driven by a steam-engine of ten-horse power are daily at work at Messrs Archer & Co.'s, which firm turns out on the average 10,000 lbs. of cut tobacco per week, independently of British cigars and cigarettes. The tobacco as delivered "cut" from the ma-

chine, (the sections in the finest "cut" being hardly discernible,) is drawn away from time to time by one of the workmen, and laid on the steaming-pans hard by. These are formed of sacking, through which some of the superfluous steam of the engine gradually rises; and it is necessary that the tobacco should be subjected to this, so that it may be "opened," or, in other words, that the "flakes" may be thorougly separated by the skilled operative who most dexterously uses his hands for this purpose. It is then laid on a hot plate for drying, after which it is placed on perforated trays and subjected to a current of air produced by a circular blower in order to expel the steam, and cool it; after which it is ready for packing in various forms. To make first-class "shag," "returns," and "bird's-eye," five or six different kinds of American tobacco are cut together, the colours, as has been said, having been previously sorted. "Returns," as probably most of my smoking readers are aware, consist of leaf only, while "bird's-eye" has the *stalk* cut with the leaf, the sections of the former making the "eyes." It is by the judicious "blending" of tobacco that an uniform quality is obtained, and, it need hardly be said, that the higher the price of tobacco, the better the quality. If a purchaser pays only four shillings per pound, he must expect that some inferior tobacco—*i.e.*, tobacco of less flavour than the American, is "blended" with the American. This is but common sense. If he pays six shillings per pound, he will get pure American leaf of the best quality. Blending tobacco is something like blending sherry; and a large variety of "fancy" mixtures are made, to suit different tastes. On Messrs Archer & Co.'s Trade List are between twenty and thirty varieties of "cut" tobacco, each distinguished by "trade" names, while of "packet" tobacco there are about twenty, many of which are well known to smokers who interest themselves scientifically in the varied productions of tobacco manufacturers.

Like all large firms in the tobacco trade, Messrs Archer & Co. have their *spécialités*, both in the way of "cut" and "hard" tobacco, as most smokers have probably observed by the announcements in the windows of the retail tobacconists. Among those most familiar is "Archer's Golden Bird's-eye." For this article connoisseurs are content to pay an extra price, as it is produced entirely from the finest-selected golden-leaf Virginia, and prepared with special care. Like the highest-class "shag" and "returns," it is not subjected to a draught of cold air on perforated trays for the purpose of cooling it, but is left to cool gradually, in order that no part of the fine aroma may be lost. These high-class tobaccos manufactured by Messrs Archer have

a world-wide celebrity, being so prepared that they will keep in any climate, and under conditions the most adverse. Hence they are in great request by sportsmen and travellers by land and water. The "Golden Bird's-eye" is as well known in India and China as the famous Burton ales, and with them conduces, in no slight degree, to the mental and bodily comfort of Anglo-Indians.

The Messrs Archer have greatly added to their reputation of late years by the production of their "GOLDEN PACKET" Tobaccos. These bear the names of "Golden Bird's-eye" (already alluded to); "Golden Returns"; "Golden Virginia" (shag); "Golden Honeydew"; and "Golden Flaked Honeydew;" a Nicotian quintet, the equal of which I do not believe any manufacturer in the kingdom can turn out. They are all produced from the finest selected leaf, and manipulated with the utmost care to meet a growing call which has manifested itself of late years for mild tobacco; and they are packed in tins of 1 lb. and ½ lb., and in tinfoil of 4oz., 2oz., and 1oz., which last-named size, curiously enough, is now much demanded by smokers in all quarters. This "Golden Series," as I may call it, finds its way into every part of the world, to the East and West Indies, and even to Japan, while since the beginning of the recent Zulu war it has established itself in all the cities and towns of South Africa so firmly that "Archer's Tobacco" has become quite a "household word" among smokers in those agitated regions. The "Golden Flaked Honeydew," above mentioned, was brought out by Messrs Archer a few years ago. It is manufactured from the best Virginian "Stripts" (*i.e.*, leaves without the stalks), kept in bond for four years or more, during which time it undergoes a slight fermentation, and thus, like wine and spirts (I wish I could add, our tempers), improves with age. The leaves are pressed into cakes, and afterwards cut by machines made specially for the purpose, from which as delivered the tobacco is packed in boxes, the "flakes" or layers being hardly disturbed. This "Golden Flaked Honeydew" is of a mild and aromatic flavour, and very cool smoking. But Messrs Archer have recently added yet another *spécialité* to their list in the shape of "INFANT PLANT," and have made yet another most successful attempt to meet the growing taste, to which I have alluded, of all classes for mild tobacco. I must confess that I am not yet influenced by this fashion, and I cannot account for this apparent change of taste except that smoking, like all other customs, is subject to fashion; but I can say that having carefully experimented upon the "Infant Plant" I find it most luxurious smoking, and I can quite understand that it is manufactured (as it professes to be) from the choicest Virginia tobacco

selected for mildness and flavour, the difficulty of procuring which necessarily increases the cost of production. Whether the term "Infant" has been applied to this tobacco because it is manufactured from the "infant" or top leaves of the plant, which would generally be the mildest, or because it is mild enough to be smoked by "infants," I must leave to Messrs Archer to inform the smoking public. Perhaps I have no right to ask for a reason for the nomenclature, in accordance with the dictum of a celebrated Divine, who has said, "He that seeketh a reason for all things destroyeth all reason." But whatever be the appositeness of the name, the "Infant" has already arrived at a "Manhood" of reputation. I note that all the "Archer Packets" [illegible] e H.A., combined initials of the firm, as the trade mark, ɔ bear the signature of the firm.

manufacture of "Roll" and "Hard" tobacco is also very ting. The firm I have been speaking of do a large trade e articles, the use of which is said to have increased since mean War. Their portability and adaptation for chewing noking when cut up account for their popularity, especiiong soldiers; and they are still almost the only form of ɔ used among the bulk of the population in Scotland and l. For making "Roll" or "Twist" tobacco, only the richest can leaf is used. The leaves are first moistened, as for g, and then opened, and the stalk extracted. They are then on a table, and the operative commences rolling them into rm of a rope, with the assistance of a small flat board ed on to his right hand. The rope is attached to a wheel by and the process is continued much after the fashion of naking in a rope-walk, except that the operative walks sidealong the table as the rope increases, instead of backwards, a rope-walk, and gathers in the tobacco leaves from the instead of working them from his waist like a rope-spinner l with tow. These tobacco ropes are "spun" in various and then coiled or twisted into various shapes, from which get their trade names. They are then put into presses, and ice of the tobacco, expressed from the pores of the leaves, the whole mass to become black. These balls or coils, the r of which has never been changed since tobacco manufacecame one of the industries of this country, may be often s "signs" over the tobacconists' shops, and are now much common than the grotesque Negro Dwarf and the wooden lander. In many establishments in the United Kingdom on the Continent, steam machines of very ingenious contion are employed in this work, one of which not only per- the whole operation of converting the leaf into compact

twisted rope, and coils it upon bobbins as it is made, but by a beautifully delicate appliance the rate at which the rope is twisted, and the rate at which the twisted rope is coiled upon the bobbin, are made to regulate each other. A steam "press" I recentlysaw doing its work admirably, "curing, cooking, and pressing tobacco" in one process, was, I noticed, one of those manufactured by the Meadow Foundry Company (Limited), Mansfield, Notts, who have done very much to assist tobacco manufacturers in various ways, and are well deserving of the support they have hitherto enjoyed.

By our law nothing in the way of flavouring and sweetening is allowed to be used in the manufacture of this kind of tobacco unless it is manufactured "in bond," in which case each packet has to be labelled with the Government stamp, and sold after the manner of a "patent medicine." "Cavendish" properly so called was until recently a forbidden manufacture in this country, and ts importation was only legalized in 1863. Under a special Act of Parliament, "Cavendish" or "sweetened" cake tobacco is now produced, but as the manufacturers have to conduct their operations under the supervision of the officers of the Revenue, the productionis limited. When sweet ingredients are added there is no substantial difference between the foreign-made and the British-made article. Unsweetened "Cavendish" is made by many English manufacturers, and for smoking purposes is quite equal to foreign Cavendish, but chewers prefer the sweeter taste of that prepared with molasses. But the admixture of sugar, treacle, and other substnces with the hard tobacco does not find much favour in this country, and consequently little is done in this line. In America this kind of manufacture is very popular, and in the columns of the recognized tobacco organs of the trade in that country numerous advertisements will be found of mixtures and "*paste*" for this purpose. The roll and pressed tobacco has had many names, given partly, as I have said, to distinguish the different shapes in which it is made up, and partly to distinguish the flavour, strength, and general quality. On Messrs. Archer's trade list of these "hard" tobaccos are found the names of "Pig-tail," "Irish Roll," "Bogie," "Limerick," "Negro Head," "Cavendish," "Alloa" (for chewing only), and others familiar enough to the military and nautical world, and those who chew, or *choose* to cut their own tobacco.

I hope that the smoker of "cut," or consumer in any way of other forms of tobacco, who has waded through the above remarks, will have gained somewhat towards a clear conception of the manufacture of the articles he so much prizes. It is with tobacco as with almost every article of consumption—it varies

according to the price paid for it. Generally speaking, the more a smoker gives to a respectable retail tobacconist, the better is the article he gets; but as a rule I would advise smokers to buy "packet" tobacco, with the *imprimatur* of an old-established firm upon it which would scorn to send out an inferior article; and as far as I know there is no fraudulent labeling in the tobacco as in the champagne trade. There is as much difference in tobaccos as bought by the consumer as in wines and spirits, the bread, cheese, and butter we eat, and the clothes we wear. It is, however, a great consolation to know that a poor man can, at a trifling figure, comparatively speaking, get a very fair article, and an immense deal of comfort out of its use; while the very best and dearest cut tobacco cannot be a very serious item in the expenses of the inveterate smoker, who buys the best article money can command.

Many of our large mannfacturers turn out from 5000 to 6000 lbs. of smoking tobacco per day; and I calculate that there are about 10,000 hands, including men, women, boys, and girls, employed in the manufacture, without counting the hundreds of clerks, counter-men, packers, carmen, and others necessary in factories, or the thousands who are indirectly connected with this industry.

I will now add a few miscellaneous paragraphs on Tobacco and Smoking, as different topics occur to me, withoutany special eye to order and arrangement.

And first, as regards the name "Tobacco." This is not taken, as some have supposed, from that of "Tobaca," a province of San Domingo, nor again, as others have asserted, from that of the island "Tobago"; but from the name of a primitive kind of pipe, or rather "inhaling tube" in the shape of the letter Y which the Indians of San Domingo used for the purpose of inhaling the fumes of tobacco leaves which they scattered on the live embers of a wood fire. The plant itself was called *cohiba* by the natives of S. Domingo, but had different names, such as *yoli, postun,* and *piecelt,* according to the varied language of the different tribes who inhabited the great Continent. The Spaniards, however, called it by the name of the Indian inhaling tube "Tabaco," and they still preserve the original spelling. The Italians add an additional C—*tabacco*; the Poles call it *tabaca*; Swedes and Danes shorten it to *tobak*; the Germans, Dutch, and Russians spell it *tabak*; the French *tabac*; while we have our own form Tobacco. Oviedo (1526), who gives an account of smoking among the Indians of Hispaniola (S. Domingo), says that so far from the word *Tabaco* being taken from the island of Tobago, the island itself had this name given it from the resemblance which Columbus thought it bore to the "inhaling tube."

For how many centuries the New World had indulged in Tobacco before it was brought into contact with the Old, is beyond our knowledge; but the date of the introduction of it into Europe may be put as about 1560, when a Spanish physician, Hernandez de Toledo, who had been commissioned to examine the productions of Mexico by Philip II., brought to Spain a small quantity, of which a portion found its way into the Portuguese Court, at which Jean Nicot, Lord of Villemain, was the French Ambassador. He obtained some plants and seed, and on his return to France presented them to the famous Queen, Catharine de Medicis, and as a compliment to her the name of the plant was altered to *Herbe de la Reine* and *Herbe Medicée*. This title, however, fell into disuse, and in honour of Nicot that of *Nicotiana* was adopted. The Cardinal Prosper Santa Croce also obtained some of the plant from Portugal, and hence in Italy for some time it was known by the name of *Erba Santa Croce*. Taylor the Water Poet assigns the year 1565 as that of the introduction of Tobacco into this country by Sir John Hawkins; Stow in his *Annals* says that "Tobacco came into England about the twentieth year of Queen Elizabeth" (1577). Camden in his *Elizabeth* states that Sir Francis Drake and his companions on their return from Virginia in 1585 were "the first, as far as we know, who introduced the Indian plant called Tabacca or Nicotia into England, having been taught by the Indians to use it as a remedy against indigestion." But Sir Francis Drake was in North America some years before this, and in an account of his voyage, which commenced in 1572 and ended in August 1573, it is recorded that the natives brought as presents bags of *Tobah*. It is probable, therefore, that Sir Francis would have brought home with him some of this *Tobah*.

But the above dates tend to rob Sir Walter Raleigh of his position as the popular hero whom tradition has assigned as the first "importer" of tobacco and originator of smoking it in this country. However, he may have been, and probably was the first "importer" of it on a large scale, and not as a mere curiosity; and, though perhaps Mr. Ralph Lane (according to Camden)—who was sent out as Governor of Virginia (named after our virgin Queen), and returned to England in 1586—first introduced smoking, Sir Walter Raleigh certainly made it fashionable, and, sanctioning it by his custom, gave it "a good standing in society." Thomas Harriot, "a man of parts," an Oxford graduate and great arithmetician, accompanied Sir Walter to America, and gave the first account of the new colony after its discovery in 1584. In his book entitled a "Briefe and True Report of the new found land of Virginia," printed at

Frankfort in 1590—a book worth more than its weight in gold—he describes the smoking of "tobacco" by the Red Indians, and adds—"We ourselves (*i.e.* Sir Walter and himself) during the time we were there used to suck it after their manner through pipes made of clay, as also *since our return*, and have found many rare and wonderful experiments of the virtues thereof." So after all, without any great historical incorrectness, we may still look upon Sir Walter Raleigh in this country as the "Father" of smoking. "Divine tobacco," as Spenser called it in his "Faërie Queene," in compliment partly to his patron, and partly perhaps to show his own appreciation of it. And if we could only determine the exact date of the introduction of tobacco into this country, we might celebrate its tercentenary. And, even apart from an exact date, why should we not do so now?

Gradually but surely the practice of smoking extended, and within a decade or so of its introduction it had become actually fashionable, so that to smoke ("drink," as it was then called, and for some time afterwards) "with a grace" was looked upon as an almost necessary accomplishment for a gentleman. At the same time, however, it had its satirists and opponents, and denunciators from the pulpit, and also its "ups and downs" as a fashion, and can hardly be said to have become really popular till the last century. Tobacco was in use in Shakespeare's day, but it is observable that not one of his plays contains a single allusion to it. In 1584 a proclamation was issued against it; and if strong and unkingly language could have put it down, the famous "Counterblaste" would have done it in 1603. In 1621 Mr. William Strode, a fellow-student of Burton (Anat. of Melancholy) at Christ Church, Oxford, Public Orator of the University, and M.P., showed that he detested tobacco as much as he did Archbishop Laud, for he moved in the House of Commons that "Tobacco be banished wholly out of this kingdom, and that it may not be brought in from any part or used among us;" but the Commons, among whom doubtless there was a majority of smokers, declined the resolution as they decline now to endorse the extreme propositions of fanatical "temperance" advocates. With the Stuarts, however, and from their time, tobacco smoking gradually asserted itself, and began to take a recognised place in our national literature. Charles Lamb, writing of the difficulties which beset him in the attempt to give up tobacco, tells of the pang of conscious ingratitude he experienced often as he resolved to quit it, and "how the reading of it casually in a book, as where Adams takes a whiff in the chimney corner of some inn in 'Joseph Andrews,' or Piscator in 'The Complete

Angler' breaks his fast upon a morning pipe, has in a moment broken down the resistance of weeks." It was with the accession of the House of Hanover that smoking first began to prevail as a national habit. George I. carried his "tabagie" with him from Germany to London, though tobacco did not become with him as it did, according to Mr Carlyle, with Frederick the Great "a political institution, a love of nature constant as the setting of the sun." But afterwards came a reaction. Dr. Johnson, in 1773, says "smoking has gone out;" and Mrs. Bellamy, writing in 1785, states that it was then most unusual, both in England and Scotland, for "gentlemen of any politeness" to call for pipes. Certainly "when George the Third was King" smoking was more or less interdicted in what was called good society, and as Regent and "arbiter of the elegant and polite" he had pronounced against the habit, though I believe to some extent a smoker himself. I am a moderately old smoker now, and I well remember how often my father cautioned me against the habit by saying very emphatically, "No *gentleman* smokes." Perhaps this was hardly the case, but no *gentleman* smoked in public about forty years ago, and as for smoking in public in the presence of ladies, no one would have thought of it. My poor father as little dreamed of the day when gentlemen—real "swells"—would smoke openly in Regent-street in company of ladies as he did that there would arise a fashion of chewing toothpicks in the same locality and in "society" generally. Smoking has now undergone a thorough revival.

It is a curious fact that the Government of every country into which tobacco was successfully introduced opposed, and tried to check, its consumption. In Italy, although it owed its importation to a Prince of the Church, Cardinal Santa Croce, it was soon made the subject of the most vehement excommunications by the Popes Urban VIII. and Innocent XII. From Switzerland—a country at all times free in its institutions—greater liberality might have been expected, but at Berne a special tribunal was created in 1661 for the express purpose of bringing to punishment the delinquents who used the forbidden weed. No greater immunity was allowed to its votaries in the great Empire of the East. The ukase of one of the Czars was most distinct. Every one in his dominions, whether subject or not, who smoked tobacco was to be punished with death; unless the culprit could prove extenuating circumstances, when his sentence was reduced to amputation of the nose. The very idea of a Turk suggests a divan, and a halo of smoke floats round a turbaned head. Yet Amurath IV., Sultan of Turkey, some time in the tenth century, issued a mandate by which every Turk

convicted of smoking should be marched, mounted backwards on an ass, through the streets of the capital with the instrument of his crime struck through his nostrils; and smoking in Turkey was not permitted till the middle of the 17th century. The Shah of Persia once proclaimed to his army that if any soldier should be seized in the act of smoking, he and his tobacco and his pipe should all be burned together. And yet, in spite of all these prohibitory edicts, the plant grew, and its growth increased, till one night in 1811, at a ball in the Tuileries, the Emperor Napoleon I., being attracted by the extraordinary beauty of the diamonds worn by a lady, asked who she was, and being told she was a wife of a wholesale dealer in tobacco, next day issued the decree which made the sale of tobacco in France a State monopoly.

And so it has come to pass that tobacco, like many other objects and subjects in history, has thoroughly established itself throughout the world; and I believe that, despite the fact that most people would give the palm to Germany, we are the "champion" smoking nation of the world. Statistics are somewhat hard to get on such a matter, but I think if they were taken any evening on London Bridge, say, and the Bridge of Boats of Coblentz about the hour when business is generally over for the day, more persons smoking would be found to pass over the former than the latter. Turning to some statistics among my tobacco papers, I find that just 40 years ago, *i.e.*, in the year 1841, the quantity of tobacco "cleared" for home consumption in the United Kingdom was (in round numbers) 23 million lbs.; ten years later it was 28 million; in 1861 it was 35½ million; in 1871 it was 42½ million; and last year (1880) it was close on to 50 million. About 14 million sterling is spent annually in this kingdom on tobacco and smoking paraphernalia, and it has been calculated that since the beginning of this century more than 600,000,000 have been so *consumed*. Looking at the matter in the way of average consumption per head of the population, I find (still speaking in round numbers) that in 1841 it was under 14 oz.; in 1851 it had advanced to over 16 oz.; in 1861 it was 19½ oz.; and in 1871, 21½ oz. At the present time (1881) it is about 24 oz. for every inhabitant of these islands. Thus in 40 years the average consumption per head has increased nearly 50 per cent. If women and children are excepted from the account, this will leave not less than 70 oz. for each grown man; and supposing that the numbers of men who smoke and the men who do not smoke are equal (an estimate, I believe, greatly too high for the non-smokers), *each smoker* would consume in the year 140 oz., or more than 2¾ oz. per week. An

estimate (a rough one, necessarily) has been made of the average consumption of tobacco by the whole human race, and it is put at 1000 millions of lbs., or 70 oz. per head per annum.

To discuss fully the Effects of Smoking upon Health would take up a larger space than I can give to it. Nor, in my humble opinion, is the question really worth discussing. *Solvitur ambulando*—or in other words the question has long been decided, and we see it decided by the physical, mental, and moral condition of hundreds and thousands of smokers whom we meet in our daily lives, and can unhesitatingly pronounce to be sound both in mind and body. The arguments adduced against the use of tobacco based on its chemical analysis and the presence of a "virulent poison" in it, the fanatical ravings of the Anti-Tobacco Society—backed up by the rabid utterances of some few medical professors who seem to fear that they will not be classed among the "eminent" unless they keep themselves before the public by astounding contradictions of patent facts or by starting some new and astounding theories—all these and a good deal more will not avail to overthrow the fact that smokers and even great smokers are as healthy men and as long-lived as non-smokers. Whatever be the amount of *nicotine* consumed by the smoker, it seems to do him as little harm as does the alum which can be found in wheat itself or the alcohol which a learned analyst has lately found traces of in almost every substance, including the purest water. As a matter of fact, in many cases we become habituated to "poison," and so it ceases practically to be a poison. Granted that tobacco is harmful to some constitutions, just as many other things harmless in themselves are harmful to persons troubled with constitutional idiosyncrasies, this is no argument against its use by persons of no abnormal tendencies. I know a lady who cannot eat a mouthful of roast beef without going into hysterics, and another who is immediately so affected by a glass of cider that her limbs become paralysed by rheumatism; and yet these cases are no arguments against the use of roast beef and cider. Granted that it may be injurious for mere boys to smoke, and that the German Government was recently well advised in making an attempt to stop them, still this is no argument against the use of tobacco by healthy adults, for we know that very many things may be more or less harmful to young growing boys which are actually beneficial to men. Granted again that it is possible to smoke too much; still, according to the trite and true saying, the abuse of a thing is no fair argument against its use—

"Usus habet laudem, crimen abusus habet;"

and enthusiastic smokers who agree with Burton's encomium on

tobacco, quoted at the head of this Chapter, may still say with him that when "abused by men, who take it as tinkers do all, 'tis a plague, a mischief, a violent purger of goods, lands, and health."

The "Anti-Tobacco Society" would be well advised to modify its name in accordance with that of the French Association, which is content to call itself "*Société contre l'Abus du Tabac*," and at the same time to moderate its language and be more careful in putting forth ridiculous statements which only cause laughter or contempt. A few years ago I was present at one of its meetings in Exeter Hall, when one of its "eminent" medical platformists urged that smoking was one of the chief causes of that most terrible disease, cancer. I ventured to ask —how was it, then, to be accounted for that cancer was ten times more common in this country among females, who do not smoke, than among males, who do? *Solvuntur tabulæ risu.* When such nonsense as this is talked by "eminent" medical men, the wonder is we do not lose our faith in the whole profession. But I am now doing what I protested against a little way back, viz.,—arguing the question of the effect of smoking on health, and thus paying a compliment to fanatics, and fulminators of "counterblastes." I will only add a few words and assure honest "alarmists" and "honest smokers," as old Isaak Walton calls them, that the increased use of the "heaven-sent" weed is not affecting the health of the community, shortening longevity, or tending to "the degeneration of the race." The general health is yearly improving; the duration of life is increasing; our national characteristics of pluck and endurance at no period of our national existence were more conspicuous; though at the time of penning these words a Gladstone-Radical Government seems doing its best to "Un-English" us; and our love of field sports, athletic pursuits, and pastimes, and the development of "muscular Christianity" in general, certainly do not point to any serious amount of physical or mental degeneracy. It should be a matter of consolation both to smokers and non-smokers to know that those soldiers and sailors who use tobacco invariably endure best the hardships of active service, as was shown particularly in the trench-work at Sebastopol, and still more recently in the Ashantee campaign, during which it is an established fact that the inveterate smokers were the last to succumb to the evil influences of the climate. Those who were hardly ever without a pipe in their mouths seemed almost climate-proof, while the non-smokers were the first, generally speaking, to be affected by the heat and deadly malaria. A correspondent of one of the daily papers more than once gave it as his opinion

that, on the tramp to Coomassie and back, it was better to be without quinine than without tobacco. The British "navvy," also, who seems to have been born with a pipe in his mouth, and who certainly always lives with one, may be adduced as another instance of the harmlessness of the habit of smoking, considering the fact that he is about the best specimen of humanity extant for a hard day's work; while all of us know or see scores of octogenarians, sound in mind and body, who have smoked from their youth upwards, and are enjoying a vigorous old age.

The campaign against tobacco goes on in France with almost as great vigour as the crusade against drinking in this country, and it is specially promoted in the columns of the *Patrie*, which has constituted itself a sort of anti-tobacco organ. The good folks who wage war against the weed have met with two half-successes lately, which have encouraged them almost as much in theory as they have disappointed them in a more practical point of view. Their first grand attempt was an effort to induce the Ministry to disallow smoking in public places by boys under 16. M. Lepère, who was then Minister of the Interior, replied to them with an assurance that he quite agreed with the principle of the suggestion, but that it would be virtually impossible to enforce the proposed prohibition. So that endeavour came to little, and the society was thrown back upon a new device. The last scheme submitted to the Government was a proposal for the nomination of a committee to inquire into the evil effects of smoking. This committee was duly appointed, and charged with inquiring "whether the noxious action of tobacco is sufficiently proved to become the subject of consideration as a matter affecting the public health." This question has just been answered in the affirmative; but the true bill found against the weed is coupled with a sort of "extenuating circumstances" clause, declaring that, *except in cases of excessive smoking, the injury is infinitesimal.* It is, therefore, still probable that the noxious plant will escape ostracism in France, and the more so considering how profitable it is to the State financially.

There is a natural tendency in mankind to use narcotics in some form or other, and as a matter of fact they have been used from the earliest times; and I think it has been rightly said that "where Nature gives a strong tendency, there must be a strong reason in the cause, and still more when she superadds a pleasure." Of all narcotics surely tobacco may be said to be the least harmful and the most pleasurable; and most pertinently has John Locke, the philosopher, observed that "bread and tobacco *may* be neglected, but reason at first recommends their trial, and custom makes them pleasant." The *moral* effect—if I

may so term it—of smoking is great and most valuable, and if it acts beneficially—as indeed it does—on our nervous system, our spirits, and tempers, it must act beneficially also on our physical system, so intimately connected are the body and mind, acting and reacting on each other for evil and for good. The action of tobacco is a wonderful and most pleasant combination of a narcotic and stimulant, at once exciting and soothing, and thus is most comforting to the mind worn down with sorrow, unhinged by apprehension or irritation, fretted by domestic worries, or exhausted by the cares of business. It is without exaggeration a panacea in its way for almost all trouble, and I verily believe that many a non-smoker who is "wearing away his dear heart" by brooding over daily trouble would often save himself from a thorough breakdown of body and mind if he had recourse to the "soothing weed." Dr. William Barclay, in his *Nepenthes* (1614), dedicated to the Bishop of Murray, did not speak lightly when he designated America "the country which God hath honoured and blessed with this happie and holy herbe." Holding these views, then, in all sincerity, I hold also that the tobacco-plant is a beneficent gift of a kind Providence to mortal man, and without cant may be included in the words—"Every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused if it be received with thanksgiving."

And here I cannot do better than transcribe the words of an "Old Smoker," who thus writes—"Smoking now, I look back to quiet firesides where I have seen tobacco welcomed amongst the best of cherished friends; to scenes of discord, where the weed has been the only possible peacemaker; to scenes of toil, where the labourer's weariness has been charmed away by the smoke of the burning leaf; to spectacles of horror and of grief, where the mind has been soothed and the nerves have been quieted and strung by the pipe or the cigar. And in all my retrospect I find no memory of evil caused or wrought because of smoking; unless where folly, ignorance, or passion has not used this instrument aright. Not once have I known a smoker blame tobacco for his sins. Not once have I known those who were bereaved charge blame upon the weed. My old friend soothes the troubled, comforts the distressed, gives strength to those who faint by the way; he helps the strong and invigorates the weak, softens the pang of sorrow, blunts the tooth of hunger, tempts none to wrong, but gives the pause to evil, and is in all ways known to me the friend of man, the helper of man's better work. Recurring to the earliest portions of this record, I rejoice that I learnt to smoke; and, looking through a long series of years, I have to thank tobacco, first amongst material agencies, that I yet live

There have been times when my duty led me where pestilence was laying victims low; and amongst the thousands slain, the weed has led me scatheless. There have been days of pain in my life, when the agony and exhaustion of disease have been mitigated and counteracted—perhaps defeated—by smoke. When misery has come upon me, in the guise or misfortune, of poverty, or bereavement, I have found in tobacco the consoler. Let no man charge me with irreverence in this, for I have seen it the soother of the most devout. They say we men are of twofold nature—that we are both material and spiritual. Who shall decide if any contradict? Not I, at all events. But, holding to the ancient creed that the soul is held in the brain, this much I know—that tobacco is to the brain what the skilful tuner is to the pianoforte; and he who plays upon the instrument after the tuner has been there discourses sweeter music than he who went before. Wearied with the work of thought, tobacco is my friend. When all the strings of mind are out of gear, this is the power that brings them into unison. Perplexed by cares, if I grow restless, and no remedy is found, the pipe brings calm and peace, and out of these relief must come." Well, too, has Bulwer Lytton said, "He who doth not smoke hath either no great griefs, or refuseth himself the softest consolation next to that which comes from heaven."

If the example of eminent men who smoked, or smoke now, may be pleaded in defence of the habit, a long array could be brought forward. True, that many notables, especially in the literary world, were not and are not votaries of the herb; Goethe, for instance, hated tobacco, and so did Heine; Shelley could not endure a pipe, and Moore was by no means an enthusiastic smoker; neither Macaulay nor De Quincey used tobacco; nor are Balzac, Victor Hugo, or Dumas on the list of smokers; but, on the other hand, a whole host of litterateurs are—Congreve, for instance, Pope, Prior, Byron, Bloomfield, the poet, Campbell, Sir Walter Scott (a great smoker), the late Lord Lytton, Thackeray (who said he "did not despair of seeing a Bishop lolling out of the Athenæum with a cheroot in his mouth, or, at any rate, a pipe stuck in his shovel hat"), Dickens, Earl Beaconsfield, Tennyson; and, among our neighbours, Alfred de Musset, Eugene Sue, and Madame Davenant, better known as "Georges Sand." Two very famous generals, Napoleon I. and the Duke of Wellington, were enemies to tobacco smoke, but as a rule the most skilful tacticians in campaigns and the best fighters in the field have been or are smokers. Many of our greatest lawyers indulged in tobacco, to wit, Lord Bacon (as he is generally called), who "had no doubt tobacco had power to lighten the body and to shake off uneasiness," and Lords Eldon,

Stowell, and Brougham; and there is no doubt but that the very large majority of our judges during the last fifty years have been smokers. Many, too, of our most eminent mathematicians and philosophers are to be ranked among the army of smokers—John Locke, for instance, and the immortal Sir Isaac Newton. Among divines who "wooed the Nicotian Nymph" were Dr. Isaac Barrow, who called his pipe his "Panpharmacon" (cure for everything), Bishop Hall, Dr. Hooker, Jeremy Taylor, Bishop Warburton, and last, but not least, Archbishop Whately, who is credited with receiving great pleasure from sitting in his shirt-sleeves across an arm-chair with a long "Churchwarden" at work at high pressure. I suppose I must not suggest, or rather state positively, that any living Anglican bishops are smokers; but we all know that a distinguished lay-divine, a very Archbishop among Nonconformists in transpontine London, the clever and eccentric Mr. Spurgeon, has been bold enough to declare from his pulpit in the ears of "Particular" Baptists, that he indulges regularly in tobacco, and can "smoke a cigar to the glory of God." It does seem rather hard that all these distinguished men should be well-nigh anathematised by the anti-tobacconal and Very Rev. Dean Close, and I should almost have thought that the fact that the "Evangelical" Robert Hall was an inveterate smoker would alone have led the Dean to speak more temperately on this subject than has been his wont.

Long indeed is the list of notable smokers in all departments of Church and State, and in all callings of life. We can see Ben Jonson and Drummond with the white vapour wreathing itself around them, and Addison and Steele having a pipe with "Sir Roger de Coverley over a dish of coffee at Squire's." Fletcher had many a quiet pipe with Beaumont, and Sir Thomas Overbury often soothed himself in a pause of his troubled life with "that delectable pastime." Scholars and students of every kind have been faithful votaries of the weed. Boxhorne, the great Dutch scholar, was such a slave to it that he wore a very broad-brimmed hat, pierced a hole through it, and so supported his pipe while his hands were free, and smoked unimpeded day and night. Bentley could never sufficiently thank Cumberland for initiating him into the delightful mystery of enjoying a pipe, and only regretted he had not begun earlier to learn it; he was over seventy when he had his first lesson. Porson used to dogmatically assert that when smoking went out of fashion, learning did so too, and old Dr. Parr insisted on taking his pipe with him wherever he went. "No pipe, no Parr," was his snappish and ungallant speech to a lady who objected to the fumigation of her drawing-room. The only rest poor old Hobbes got in that stormy, contentious

existence of his, was when he could light his pipe in comfort, and forget all about Dr. Eachard or Wallis. He held tobacco to be of "rare and singular virtue," and lived to the ripe age of 92. Who cannot see in imagination John Milton smoking his regular evening pipe and talking between whiffs to gentle Ellwood; or step over to the Rose and survey the author of "Hudibras," silent, absent, and reserved, with a history in every line of that hard, coarse face, now lit up with the flare of the live coal he has put into the bowl of his pipe? Fielding was a great smoker, and many a scene of those harum-scarum comedies of his were dashed off on his tobacco-paper; and what angler can walk by the side of the beautiful Dove without remembering that Izaak Walton and his friend Cotton used to wander along its banks smoking pleasantly the while? Charles Lamb, "the gentle Elia," was once a great smoker, and rehearsed the praises of the weed both in prose and verse as "the friendliest of plants," but afterwards became a renegade and abused it, though his sincerity in this latter respect may be more than doubted; and Carlyle, with unbecoming ingratitude to the herb which had yielded him both solace and inspiration, partly turned against it in his later years, and held that throughout the world its influences "had generally been bad." Still the author of "Confessions of a Cigar-Smoker" has erred very little from the strict truth when he says—

"The greatest men have all been smokers,
And so were all the greatest jokers."

Since the age of Frederick the Great, most European Sovereigns have been tolerably steady smokers. At the present moment by far the greater number of the potentates and statesmen of the Continent are consumers of tobacco in considerable quantities. The pipes of Prince Bismarck and the cigars of M. Gambetta have become as historical as the cigarettes of Napoleon III.; and Ulysses A. Grant without his "smoke" would almost lose his identity. I am told that Mr Gladstone smokes; but I cannot speak from actual knowledge. If he does he seems to be superior to the virtues of tobacco as a "soother." His fierce temperament, and irritable and irascible temper, I can quite conceive, must be "unamelioratable" by its charms. He must be the one case in which, according to the old saying—*Exceptio probat regulam.*

Since the date of its introduction into Europe, tobacco has always been a subject of special fiscal legislation, and one of the most abundant sources to which Governments have looked for revenue; and in this country, perhaps, no other article of common consumption has ever had to pay so high an import in proportion

to its intrinsic value. Within three years of its introduction here we find that smokers had to pay *three shillings per ounce* for it, which would be equivalent to more than sixteen shillings of our present money, but at that time the import duty was very light, being only 2d. per lb. James I., of "Counterblaste" memory, and a cordial hater of Sir Walter Raleigh, had the duty raised to 6/10, but this was only on "Virginian" tobacco, and consequently large quantities were imported from Spanish and Portuguese districts, and tobacco was also cultivated in this country. The duty on Virginian tobacco was, however, lowered in 1624, and importation from other parts prohibited; but still smokers had to pay a high price for it, the cost being from 10/ per lb. for inferior, up to 18/ per lb. for the best, and here again we must multiply by three or four to get the equivalent in our money. It is on record that as late as 1680 tobacco was worth its weight in silver, and that farmers at provincial markets used to select their biggest shillings to put into the scales against it. In 1834 the duty was 3/ per lb. on the raw material, except that from British possessions in America, when it was 2/9; and this was equivalent to about fifteen times its original cost. For many years it stood at 3/2, the additional 2d. representing an extra duty of 5 per cent., imposed nearly 40 years ago as a war tax. In 1878 Sir Stafford Northcote, Chancellor of the Exchequer, raised the duty to 3/6—a foolish step, I venture to think, for a Conservative Government, for it helped to make the Ministry unpopular by practically taxing the "working man," or by giving him a worse tobacco. It had the effect also of checking the increased consumption of tobacco—indeed, it slightly lowered it. Manufacturers, generally speaking, could hardly add this extra 4d. to their charge to the retail tobacconist, nor could the latter add it to their price per oz., and consequently the only way out of the difficulty was to add more *water* to the tobacco, from which the "working man" has chiefly to suffer. In reference to this "watering," a writer in the *Manchester Examiner* in April, 1872, made the following statement, which cannot be said to read very pleasantly:—

"A pound weight of tobacco leaf, when landed at Liverpool or any other British port, is worth about 6½d., and this pound is taxed 3/6—that is, nearly 700 per cent. is levied and paid on the import value of the article. It is now 4/0½ in price instead of 6½d. But this is not all. Tobacconists cannot buy tobacco at 4/0½ a pound to sell it retail at 4/. So the pound of leaf, which is imported at 6½d., and with 3/6 paid as duty, is taken and manufactured 'till it has absorbed about half a pound of water.' The consumer, therefore, who now buys the pound and a-half of manufactured tobacco for 6/ (3d. an ounce) pays just 3/6 for duty, 1/11½ for water, and 6½d. for tobacco leaf; or, in plain English, 5/5½ for nothing, and 6½d. for narcotism. As much as £13,500,000 sterling is paid yearly by the people of the United Kingdom in this way—and ungrudgingly paid, too. That is really £12,250,000 for nothing, and £1,250,000 for narcotism."

These figures may not be *exactly* accurate, but the statement is practically true. As a matter of fact there are certain "leaves" used in the manufacture of ordinary "cut" tobacco which easily imbibes water to the extent of from 40 to 50 per cent. of their weight without losing their burning propensities; and these are "low-class" leaves which come from Java, Japan, China, Mexico, and elsewhere. On the other hand, the finer and high-priced tobacco from Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland, &c., being glutinous and full of gum, is almost impervious to water, and so, practically, it comes to pass that the higher classes who smoke the best tobacco pay no more duty than the lower, who get so large a percentage of water with their threepenny ounce or three-halfpenny "screw." A strong movement has recently been set on foot to obtain from Mr. Gladstone a promise of the reduction of the extra 4d., and though for the present he does not see his way to it, it can hardly be doubted but that he will. But why should not the duty be reduced to 3/? Though "the trade" got on pretty well for nearly 40 years with the duty at 3/2, matters "all round" would be improved by a further reduction, even though slight, and I have come to the conclusion that at 3/ duty the manufacturers, with fair profit to themselves, could supply a very decent article to be retailed to the "working man" at 3d. per ounce, which is the price beyond which he cannot or will not go. Indeed, I see no good reason why the duty might not be reduced to 2/6, with a law passed limiting the introduction of water into "drinking" tobaccos to 10 or 15 per cent. The lowering of the duty, I am aware, has a tendency to bring "small men" into the trade, which, for obvious reasons, would not redound to the advantage of consumers; but it might have the desirable effect of putting a stop to a good deal of the smuggling, which, as newspaper readers must have gathered, has increased of late to an alarming extent.

Our National Exchequer now receives through the duty and dealers' licences something over nine millions sterling per annum, and thus tobacco contributes nearly *one-tenth* of the whole revenue of the country, which contribution, as I have indicated, comes mostly out of the pockets of the operative poor. Germany has never derived a large income from tobacco duties, but in the year 1878 Prince Bismarck proposed an augmentation of the tax which would bring in an additional two and a-half millions sterling. I am sorry I cannot inform my readers whether this proposition actually passed into law; but there is no doubt but that Bismarck is now seriously contemplating making tobacco a Government monopoly, which would at a stroke produce a princely revenue. I shall not here discuss this question, though an

interesting one, of the reasonableness or expediency of Governments making a monopoly of this article; but there is no denying the fact that in those States where it is a monopoly the public actually receive a better article *at the price* than they do in this country, where the trade is absolutely free, except as to the prohibition of growing tobacco within the United Kingdom. Thus the French Government, which is by far the largest trader in tobacco, is able to supply through its *bureaux de tabac* its famous *caporal*, a mixture of Maryland and native growth, which rich and poor alike use either in the pipe or twisted into cigarettes, at the uniform price of a halfpenny for a halfpenny's weight. Again, a home-made cigar of genuine West Indian leaf is supplied at the moderate rate of six for 1/3, the equal of which in quality could not be obtained in this country, at least in retail, at double the price. There are special places in France at which foreign-made cigars may be procured at any price from 4d. apiece to 1/8; and so great is, as a rule, the skill which the French *régie* has acquired in its exceptional advantages of purchase that it can afford to sell at about three-fifths of what a first-class London dealer would ask from his customer. Still all travellers abroad know how hard it is to get a really good foreign cigar. I suppose the Government really does not wish it to be easy. The annual revenue derived by France through the monopoly is over 13 millions sterling. Holland has a low tax on tobacco; and it is in Holland, if anywhere, that the cigars and common tobacco are more execrable than they are in North Germany. I fear the Dutchlanders have but little taste.

Having just above alluded to the prohibition against growing tobacco in this country for the purpose of manufacture, I will say a few words in reference to it. Tobacco, as I have before stated, was cultivated in this country soon after its introduction; but I believe the cultivation was prohibited about the year 1620. But however this may be, it was not practically stopped, and the efforts of King James I. to suppress it were unsuccessful. It was in 1684 (12 Charles II., cap. 34) that the cultivation of tobacco in England was definitely prohibited under very heavy penalties, which I believe were even increased by a subsequent Act, but these Acts of course did not affect Scotland. Its cultivation was allowed in Ireland in 1779, and its growth protected by high differential duties. In 1827, in consequence of some doubt as to the law affecting Ireland, it was declared that tobacco might be grown in that country; but in 1830 an Act was passed repealing the exceptional permission given to Ireland. In 1831 it was again prohibited except under certain circumstances. The law as it now stands forbids the cultivation of tobacco in any part of the

United Kingdom for manufacturing purposes. At one time Irish tobacco had gained so great a reputation that it fetched in the home market something like three times the price of Virginian; but early in the present century it was held to be "strong and coarse" and inferior to American tobacco, the latter, I imagine, having been improved in the course of years by judicious cultivation. The county of Wexford was reputed to produce the best. Scotland carried on the cultivation very successfully till our Colonial trade was interrupted by the American War, a large tract of land about Kelso and Jedburgh being specially devoted to it. It was so extensively grown in Gloucestershire that in 1655 the professional "hangman" of that county complains in a curious pamphlet that his occupation was almost gone in consequence of the widely-spread cultivation of tobacco, which, giving employment to so many men, left them no time or inclination for sheep-stealing and other breakings of the law to the danger of their necks. The North Riding, also, of Yorkshire was famous for its tobacco. How we should like the taste of home-grown tobacco at the present time is a very questionable matter; certain it is that European tobacco, whether grown in France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, or Austria, does not compare favourably in any respect with the products of the New World.

Still if, as many competent authorities affirm, Southern Ireland, Cornwall, Devonshire, and other parts of the United Kingdom are well adapted both in soil and climate for growing of good tobacco, I see no just cause or impediment why the cultivation of it should not be renewed. James I., and after him Cromwell, held that growing tobacco in England was "thereby to misuse and misemploy the soil of this Kingdom," and probably the prohibitions against its growth were partly based on the idea that it would tend to diminish the food supply. In our age such an argument would not find an advocate among the most crotchety of legislative eccentrics. It is so obviously true, and now universally admitted, that the more varied are the articles of production and the forms of employment, the safer is a country from violent crises through the failure of any particular one. Nowhere has the truth of this axiom been proved by more bitter experience, and nowhere would the introduction of a new and most lucrative source of national wealth be felt as a greater boon. This subject cropped up, I noticed, in the House of Commons only a few evenings ago (May 30th, 1881) and in answer to a question as to the desirability of allowing Irish farmers to grow tobacco, Mr. Gladstone intimated that this question might be raised in reference to the whole kingdom, adding these important words:—"I regard any prohibition of the growth

of an agricultural product at all as being very unsatisfactory in itself, and I am at all times open to the reception of any statement or suggestion tending to show that if that prohibition were removed we could satisfactorily levy a duty on the commodity when grown at home as we levy on it when imported." By all means, then, let us revive the industry of growing tobacco at home, especially if materially or morally it would improve the condition of Ireland. One advantage the tobacco crop seems to possess, which would perhaps specially commend it to the majority of Irishmen of the present generation, namely, that it demands comparatively little care and labour, and it is exceptionally free from the perils to which other harvests are exposed. In the insect world it has only one enemy, peculiarly its own, which is known as the tobacco worm; and this, by a kind arrangement of Providence, is the favourite food of the domestic turkey, which fattens nowhere so well as in a tobacco field. It must be remembered, on the other hand, that no plant is so sensitive to the character of the ground in which it grows, and any means employed to increase the quantity is invariably at the expense of quality. Some years ago I grew some tobacco in Devonshire from the best Havannah seed, and actually made my own cigars from it and smoked them; but of real tobacco flavour they hardly possessed a vestige. Moreover, tobacco requires sun, as well as a reasonable amount of moisture. That it would get the latter in Ireland is beyond all doubt; but an adequate supply of the former is problematic. "The melancholy ocean" which separates the Green Isle from Great Britain is very frequently associated with damp and long-continued fogs that would do credit to Newfoundland. However, I do not wish to throw cold water on any attempt to start anything which may make Ireland more prosperous and contented. The whole question is an interesting, and, indeed, an important one, and would require much consideration, involving a thorough investigation into the whole of the tobacco trade and its adjuncts in this country; and perhaps there would be no more suitable time than the present for the appointment of a Royal Commission to undertake this work.

By the way, India is increasing greatly as a tobacco-producing country. The regularity of the seasons bringing the certain sunshine which is so necessary for the finer sort of "sun-cured" tobacco, has, together with care and scientific and practical skill in selection of seed and soil, and in the growth, collection, and cure of the leaves, been the secret of the excellence of Indian tobacco. Two farms provided by the Government at Ghazipur and Pusa, in the North-West provinces, and recently transferred to private management, have been very successful, the tobacco selling in England at 5d. to 7d. per lb. It is stated that 4½d. is a paying

price, and that every penny over that figure yields a profit of fifty rupees per acre.

A few years ago we were promised something like a revolution in the method of taking our smoke. I have heard nothing more of it lately, and perhaps after all the idea was suggested rather as a contribution to *Punch* than as a serious project. Yet it came to us with a certain amount of circumstantiality—to the effect that a Professor Manlesel, a German, who had lately arrived in Virginia, had not only propounded a scheme for "laying on" tobacco smoke to houses, but was actually engaged in erecting extensive works in Virginia for that purpose. The tobacco was to be burned in large retorts, and the smoke thus produced was to pass through pipes to a large bell-shaped receptacle of boiler iron, where it would be cooled, purified, and so scented, that it would have the flavour of the finest Havannah cigar. From the smokeometer, or, as it ought to be written, "Kapnometer," a main pipe would lead up into the city, and from this would be small branch pipes leading to all the principal houses. In every house where the smoke was taken there would be a meter more delicately constructed than a gas meter for measuring and recording the amount of smoke consumed. Running from these meters would be pipes leading to all the rooms in the house, and connected with these pipes would be long flexible tubes with amber mouthpieces for the convenience of smokers, who would only have to turn a small silver thumbscrew, and the cool, delicious, perfumed smoke would glide into their mouths. The professor, moreover, had not forgotten the peripatetic puffers, as for smokers in the street he had invented indiarubber receptacles fitting to the chest, which, when inflated with smoke, would greatly improve the appearance. Connected with these bags were to be flexible tubes ending in amber mouthpieces, which might be tucked into the waistcoat pocket. Smoke thus provided would be freed from nicotine and other injurious elements, and the expense of smoking considerably reduced. There can be little doubt that Professor Manlesel's plan would be admirably adapted for the new co-operative homes, of which we heard so much a little time ago, and, except that laying down the smoke pipes involves taking up the roads and impeding the traffic, there can be no objection to its adoption in this country. If it were, what excellent use might be made of the "Queen's Tobacco Pipe" (before alluded to) in the Docks, and, besides a luxury, how useful this endless supply of tobacco smoke would be as a disinfectant!

Before bringing this chapter to a conclusion, I feel that here would be the place to say a few words in reference to the adulteration of tobacco; and I am very glad to be able to say them in

the way of a comfort, generally speaking, to smokers. Very heavy penalties are enacted for the adulteration of tobacco. Under the Act 5 and 6 of Victoria £300 is the fine for using any substance whatever but water in the manufacture of tobacco for smoking either as "cut" tobacco or as cigars, and £200 is the fine for dealing in adulterated tobacco or for having in a factory any substances capable of being used as adulterants of tobacco or to increase its weight. Despite, however, these heavy penalties, and notwithstanding the extreme vigilance of the Excise officers and the minute investigations and analysis of samples at the Laboratory at Somerset House, adulteration of tobacco is effected in various ways. Indeed, so many are the cases given in the periodical reports of Commissioners of Inland Revenue, that unless ordinary smokers were aware that in a very large proportion of these the tobacco adulterated was "roll" or "hard," or snuff, or very cheap "shag," they might have great cause for alarm. To be told, for instance (taking a report at haphazard), that in 1870 there were examined at the Laboratory 152 samples of tobacco, and that of these 28 were adulterated; that in 1872, out of 232 samples examined 174 were found adulterated; that in 1874, out of 71 samples no less than 50 were found adulterated; and (referring to another return) that during the last twelve years some hundreds of cases of tobacco adulterated with various substances have been officially recorded—all this, I admit, sounds very depressing. And to be further told that among the adulterants detected were starch, cereal "meals," liquorice, sugar, gum, lampblack, catechu, and an infinite variety of chemicals (including saltpetre, which gives a brisker glow to the fire) more or less injurious to health, as well as the leaves of cabbage (which has long been credited with increasing the number and bulk of our smokers), lettuce, dock, plantain, burdock, chicory, rhubarb, coltsfoot, foxglove, comfrey, elm, oak, lime, &c., &c.; while "foreign substances" such as paper, linen rags, packthread, hay, straw, leather, bristles, hair, wood, needles, shirt buttons, feathers, string, matches, *cum multis aliis*, including *human teeth*, have been detected—all this, again, is suggestive that we had better give up smoking altogether. Serious cases of adulteration have from time to time been revealed beyond doubt in our law courts. For instance, a cigar manufacturer some years ago resisted successfully an attempt to enforce the legal penalty for the unlawful fabrication of cheap "Havannah cigars" from *tobacco which had paid no duty*, as he was enabled to show in his own defence that *he never made use of tobacco leaf at all.* Not very long ago at the Hull petty sessions a tobacconist was convicted of having illegally manufactured cigars, and also of having on his premises lime-tree leaves to be used in adulteration.

He was fined £200 for each offence. Some cigars purchased of him were found to be made up of 74 per cent. of lime-tree leaves, 4 per cent. of gunpowder, 11·87 per cent. of tobacco, and the rest of paper coloured to imitate tobacco. Still more recently an interesting addition to the history of the "development of species" was found in an experience of Her Majesty's Customs officers in London. There arrived in that port from Hamburg a bottle of comparatively harmless appearance, containing about half a gallon of a mysterious liquid. This liquid on analysis was found to be nothing less than *pure nicotine*, and must, say the chemists, have been extracted from something over a ton of tobacco sweepings, duly moistened with alcohol. The purpose of the importers, though not expressed, was pardonably presumed to be the transformation of considerable quantities of our "Early York" cabbages or some other humble leaves into fragrant Havannahs, which would thus develop a marvellous change, as Mr. Darwin would say, "under domestication." The Commissioners of Customs, it seems, after taking out a sample for their museum, politely returned the precious consignment to Hamburg, where, or rather at the neighbouring city of Bremen, it would no doubt be profitably, if not beneficially, utilised.

But, as I have already intimated, these terrible revelations lose a very large proportion of their piquancy in the argumentative mouths of the Anti-tobacconists, and of their fears in the minds of smokers, when their real value is ascertained. For instance, in reference to one of the Reports of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, in which it was stated that out of 212 samples of tobacco analysed at the laboratory in 1872 there were as many as 129 adulterated, Messrs. Morris & Sons (the well-known Cigar Manufacturers in Half-moon Passage, Whitechapel, and the leading firm in this department of the trade) wrote to the chief chemist at Somerset House, asking an explanation. The reply was that the Report of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue quoted in the *Times* was quite correct, though the number of samples found adulterated did not represent so many individual cases, for sometimes one case, such as a large seizure, might embrace many samples. It was also stated that many of the adulterated samples were of sweetened "*Cavendish*," which had been found in the possession of dealers, and which had probably been smuggled into this country in small quantities. Messrs. Morris and Sons thereupon very fairly submitted that the report, though in a literal sense accurate, merely enumerated so many chemical experiments, and conveyed no *practical* information whatever in reference to the subject of adulteration, in so far as it affected the public, the revenue, or their trade. They stated, moreover, much to

the point, that much or most of the tobacco manufactured in America, occasionally smuggled in minute quantities, was adulterated or sweetened for "chewing," and that this circumstance made detection very easy, because the home-made article was practically always of pure tobacco. Thus ordinary *smokers*, as I have said before, are not really affected by any revelations in reference to the adulteration of "Cavendish," "roll," or "hard" tobacco. Moreover, it must be remembered that the great proportion of the samples officially submitted for analysis are "suspected" before they are submitted, and consequently the number found adulterated in no way indicates the *average* of adulteration.

It may be taken for granted that large manufacturers of tobacco, cigars, and snuff would not, as a matter of high principle, adulterate their products, nor would they as a matter of interest, for some of them would soon expose them and smokers would soon detect it; nor practically could they if they would, as Excise officers continually visit their premises at all hours, and even a small quantity of adulterants kept there would not escape detection. What little adulteration is done is done by "little" men living in obscure quarters, and effected with their own hands. To my knowledge a semi-private experiment was made a few years ago, which showed that the adulteration of ordinary tobacco and cigars is next to nothing. Samples to the number of 160 of tobacco and cigars were collected "haphazard," and that not in the West-end of London particularly, nor especially at what were reputed as first-rate shops, and on careful analysis *only two* samples were found adulterated. I am told, and I believe it to be the case, that in Germany mangold-wurtzel, cherry, cabbage, and other leaves steeped in tobacco-solution are incorporated with cigars, and that with the knowledge and permission of the Government; but no dealer would import them and pay the 5/ duty per lb. on them in the hope of making either a reputation or a profit. I once bought cigars (?) at Ems at *six a-penny*, and endeavoured to "pass" a couple of boxes so that I might have them by me for experiment and for the purpose of getting a little fun out of my friends with them; but being politely requested by her Majesty's representatives at Dover to pay the duty on them, I politely allowed them to be confiscated, not thinking them worth "clearing," though during my expatriation I had smoked some scores of their fellows. One word as to "coltsfoot," mentioned as an adulterant. It belongs to the Natural Family of the *Compositæ*, its botanical name being *Tussilago farfara*, while its common title, colts or foalsfoot, has been given it from the shape of its green leaves, being like the foot of a colt. Its yellow blossoms, which are often very conspicuous in early spring on stiff clay soil, have a great reputation when dried and candied with sugar, as a cure

for coughs, and its leaves long ago were used for smoking by themselves or mixing with tobacco. Ben Jonson, in his *Bartholomew Faire*, makes "Ursula" say to her tapster "Look to't, sirrah, you were best! threepence a pipefull I will ha' made of all my whole halfe pound of tobacco, and a quarter of a pound of coltsfoot, mixed with it, too, to eke it out." I have tried coltsfoot and found it smokeable, especially when mixed with tobacco. As to "foreign substances," such as I have mentioned, being found occasionally with tobacco and cigars, the matter is really hardly worth notice, as in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred they must have got in by mere accident. To sum them up, the smoker has practically little or nothing to fear from actual adulteration, though he has to suffer from bad or utterly flavourless tobacco, which is worked up in large quantities with that of the better class for the production of a low-priced article.

To conclude with, here is a Geometrico-Nicotian Acrostic, an old "conceit" in rhyme, but I do not know who was the author of it:—

To three-fourths of a cross T
Add a circle complete O
Let two semi-circles a perpendicular meet B
Next add a triangle that stands on two feet ... A
Then two semi-circles { C
..... C
And a circle complete O



CHAPTER II.

Cigars.

Yes, social Friend, I love thee well,
 In learned doctor's spite;
Thy cloud all other clouds dispel,
 And lap me in delight.

"Sublime Tobacco, which from east to west
Cheers the tar's labour or the Turkman's rest:
Which on the Moslem's ottoman divides
His hours, and rivals opium and his brides:
Magnificent in Stamboul, but less grand,
Tho' not less loved in Wapping and the Strand:
Divine in hookahs, glorious in a pipe,
When tipp'd with amber, mellow, rich, and ripe:
Like other charmers, wooing the caress
More dazzlingly when daring in full dress:
Yet thy true lovers more admire by far
Thy naked beauties—Give me a CIGAR."

Byron's "ISLAND."

"I owe to smoking, more or less,
Through life the whole of my success;
With my CIGAR, I'm sage and wise—
Without, I'm dull as cloudy skies."

"CONFESSIONS OF A CIGAR SMOKER."

"A few more whiffs of my CIGAR
And then in Fancy's airy car,
 Have with thee for the skies:
How oft this fragrant smoke upcurl'd
Hath borne me from this little world,
 And all that in it lies!"

"ODES AND ADDRESSES TO GREAT PEOPLE."
T. Hood and G. Reynolds.

"He who doth not smoke hath either known no great griefs, or refuseth himself the softest consolation next to that which comes from heaven. . . . On the whole, then, woman in this scale and the weed in that, Jupiter, hang out thy balance, and weigh them both: and if thou give the preference to women, all I say is, the next time Juno ruffles thee—O Jupiter—try the WEED!"

Bulwer—"WHAT WILL HE DO WITH IT."

THERE are probably more varieties of cigars than of almost anything we eat, drink, wear, or use in our daily life—good, bad, and indifferent: and a smoker, if he had to name, say, half a-dozen good things superior from a gastronomic

and "apolaustic" point of view to all others, he would doubtless include in them a *good* cigar. And, further, he would say, that of all good cigars a good

HAVANNAH CIGAR

was the best.

It was in the Havannah, or at least in Cuba, that the Indian custom of smoking tobacco was first noted by Europeans. In the first week of November, 1492, two sailors were sent by Columbus to explore the island, and on their return to the ships, they reported that they found the natives carrying "lighted firebrands" with them, and puffing smoke from their mouths and noses. The Europeans at first concluded that this was some mode by which the natives perfumed themselves, but a more intimate acquaintance with them revealed the fact that it was certain leaves of a herb rolled up in the dried leaves of the maize, or Indian corn, that they thus burned, and from them inhaled the smoke. What was a novelty to the Spaniards was but an ancient and familiar custom with the natives of Central America, who dreamed away their lives in smoking reveries, centuries of ages, perhaps, before Columbus was born, or the "strange plant" was brought within the precincts of the Elizabethan Court. However, the first cigar taken cognizance of by history was a Cuban cigar, and everyone knows that the district and city of Havannah are in Cuba. The early European settlers in the island seem to have devoted themselves principally to the rearing of cattle; but about 1580, the cultivation of tobacco and the sugar cane was commenced, and this led to the introduction of the system of negro slavery, which still obtains under the Spanish Government. What the production of cigars alone has been in Cuba since the manufacture was established must be something prodigious in figures, and starting with some definite data it would be a pretty arithmetical recreation to calculate how many large pyramids of Egypt they would make in bulk, how many times, laid end to end, they would go round the world, or how nearly they would reach to the sun or one of the planets. The word "cigar" (or as some affectedly still write it, "segar") is the Spanish "*Cigarro*" (Fr. *Cigare*), and was, I believe, originally the name only of a particular kind of Cuban tobacco.

I have already said a few words about the culture and curing of tobacco in America, and substantially it is the same wherever it is grown. In the Havannah, special care and labour are expended upon it from the sowing of the seed to the completion of its manufacture into cigars. I need hardly say it is not exported for "cutting." The seed, carefully selected, is

blown gently from the palm of the hand on to beds prepared for it, and at first covered with plantain leaves. When the plants are about four inches high, they are drawn and planted out about three feet asunder, and when they reach an altitude of about twenty-four inches the top is cut or plucked off, and if there are more than twelve leaves on a plant the surplus is taken off and the rest is left entire. The plants are then daily attended to in order to destroy the caterpillars, which are liable to infest tobacco, whilst every sprout or sucker that grows at the joints is plucked off in order to allow the whole vegetable nourishment to be thrown into the larger leaves. When the edges or points of the leaves begin to turn a little yellow, the stalks are cut down about ten o'clock in the morning of a fine day when the dew is entirely off the plant, and the work is not continued after two o'clock in the afternoon. As fast as it is cut it is carried into the tobacco house, where, in a very close atmosphere, it is hung up on lines to dry. When the stalks begin to turn brown they are taken off these lines and put into a large bin under heavy weights for twelve days or so. Then they are taken out, the leaves are stripped off, and they are again placed in a bin and well pressed for a month, great care being taken to exclude the air. After this they are taken out and tied into bundles (about sixty leaves in each), which are called *monoces*, and they are then ready for sale, but they are always kept very close until disposed of for manufacturing into cigars. The curing-houses are usually well built and very close and warm. When built of boards, they are covered entirely with thatch and plantain "trash" in order to keep out the damp. From the roots which are left in the ground after the first crop, other plants spring up, which are known as *hijos* in Cuba and as *rattoons* in Jamaica. This second growth may sometimes produce tobacco good enough for "wrappers," *i.e.* the outside covering of cigars, called *cappa* in the West Indies; but as a rule *tripa* or "fillers" (*i.e.*, the inside of cigars) is the result of the later *rattoons*.

The manipulation of the best brands of Havannah cigars is simply perfect, leaving nothing to be desired as regards their "make." The primest cigars were formerly reserved for the King of Spain, who smoked them himself and also liberally distributed them among his courtiers and officials. The exportation of Havannah "leaves" was once forbidden, nor could the planter manufacture for himself, but he was compelled to give up his growth to the Government Commissioner, who allowed him the value, and manufactured the cigars in the Royal warehouse. I have read also of a particularly large and fine kind of Havannah cigars being made from specially selected leaves "presented to

the Church," manufactured by the monks, and to be obtained only from them. Whether this ecclesiastical weed is still produced I cannot say. The number of manufacturers of cigars in Cuba is between five and six hundred. And here I think it will be well to say a few words on the different "markings" which we see on the boxes which come from Havannah. Every maker (or "house") has his "brand," and this brand is either a "fancy" name or that of the maker himself; and it is now stamped (formerly "burnt" or "branded") on the outside of the lid of the box, and also indicated by the paper label inside the lid. Thus we have "Partagas" (please accent on the final, and not on the second syllable, and pronounce it almost like our word "gas"), "Cabanas," "Morales," after their makers' names; and "Intimidads," "Henry Clays," and "Legitimadas," as examples of "fancy" names of brands. The different *qualities* of the "leaf" are distinguished as "Flor Fina," or first quality; "Flor," "Superior," and "Bueno," or fourth quality. The *sizes and shapes* are distinguished by such titles as "Infantes," "Reinas," "Trabucos," "Regalia Chicas," and "Imperiales," with a number of other varieties. The colours, which indicate the *strength* of the cigars, from the "fullest" to the "mildest," are distinguished by the names of "Pajado," "Claro," "Colorado Claro," "Colorado Maduro," "Maduro," "Oscuro," and "Pizarro," but the first and last-named are not often used. The lightest and mildest are generally represented by "Claro," the darkest and most full-flavoured by "Oscuro" and "Maduro." Thus there are *four* "markings" on a box of cigars, indicating respectively the "house" which makes the particular "*brand*," the *quality* of the leaf used, the *size or shape*, and the *strength*; and I would strongly advise smokers, who need it, to carefully "get up" this little lesson, and not remain as many are —*in nubibus*, as regards this rather complicated matter.

The reputation of Havannah cigars, as the best in the world, has rightly extended through many generations of smokers; but, speaking from my own experience, and from what I have heard candidly acknowledged by very many leading importers and retailers, there has of late years been a marked falling-off in quality. There is no denying the fact that it is now *almost* impossible to get a *good* Havannah cigar at a moderate price, as one could do—say from ten to twenty years ago. The cause of this is probably not far to find. Here is a quotation from the *Tobacco Trade Review* of March 12th, 1881:—

"It has frequently been stated of late that Havannah cigars for the past two or three years have been deteriorating in quality, but few have known the reason why. It comes out in connection with the recent large failure of Messrs. Seidenburg & Co., New York, who have been among the largest manufacturers

of fine cigars at Key West from Havannah stock, and also dealers in Havannah tobacco. This firm had about $600,000 worth of the crops of 1878 and 1879. When they began sending out the cigars made from this tobacco they were returned to them almost as fast as they could send them out, and Messrs Seidenburg and Co. found themselves in possession of a large stock both of raw and manufactured goods, which were utterly unsaleable. The most plausible reason assigned for this *deterioration* in the Cuban tobacco crop is that during the last few years *large quantities of guano and other fertilisers have been used to increase the production.* The character of the soil has thus been changed, and with it the fine quality of the tobacco grown thereon."

This is a true bill, for some Havannah cigars actually smell (if not taste) of guano, the presence of which can be also detected on analysis. The tobacco plant is peculiary exhaustive of the soil it grows in, and consequently the tobacco fields require continually reinvigorating by fresh deposits of alluvial earth, or by the use of manures and artificial fertilizers. Fortunately the Vuelta Abajo, the celebrated valley in which the best Havannah tobacco has been grown from the earliest times, is more or less naturally irrigated every year by the overflowing of the rivers, which leaves an alluvial deposit, and the soil is also assisted by the detritus of the hill sides by the rains; and thus the produce maintains its standard. This, however, of course, is not the case with the upper lands, on which *more than one half* of the Havannah tobacco is grown. These, in consequence of the increased demand for Havannah cigars throughout the world, have gradually been extended for tobacco culture, and have necessarily required artificial stimulants in the way of guano, &c., which have been supplied so liberally that the product has become affected by them and made rank in flavour. In other words, a large portion of the Havannah tobacco fields have become "worked out" and practically effete. This is but a dreary prospect for those who swear by Havannah cigars and cannot afford to pay the high and increasing prices which first-class brands command; and there seems no remedy for this state of things, as the area suitable at all for the production of tobacco is limited even in the districts of Pastido and Remedios, where the commoner kind of tobacco is grown.

The bad repute into which Havannah cigars, or perhaps I should say, second-class Havannah cigars, have fallen of late years has probably been increased by the large number of so-called Havannahs being really not Havannahs at all in the strict sense of the word. They are manufactured, it is true, in Havannah, but the tobacco is imported into Cuba from Porto Rico and elsewhere, and is certainly inferior to the home-grown. This importation, I believe, is contrary to law, but I suppose the Spanish authorities connive at it. I am told also that a large quantity of European tobacco is shipped to Cuba and made up there into

cigars, the lighter kind being steeped or dyed in various injurious extracts of dyewoods, known by the names of "Havannah brown," "sap brown," and "condensed sauce." These cigars come back to European countries under the name of Havannah, which they are cleverly made to resemble, and so help to increase the bad name real Havannahs have been lately acquiring. But the most painful fraud connected with the Havannah trade was revealed, or, shall I say? said to be revealed about five years ago. The *Scientific American*, some time in July, 1876, stated that a very large quantity of cigars manufactured in Havannah were composed by no means entirely of tobacco, but to a considerable extent of *a kind of brown straw wrapping paper*, prepared especially for the purpose in New York. Sheets of this material were saturated with the juice pressed from tobacco stems and then passed through a sort of printing machine, which gave them the exact appearance of tobacco leaves; so much so, indeed, that the paper thus prepared was largely used for the "wrappers" or outer coverings of cigars, and was, in fact, said to be regarded—by the makers—as "an improvement on the natural tobacco-leaf," inasmuch as it was "much stronger, more economical, and easier of manipulation." In view of a further expression of manufacturing opinion to the effect that this tobacco-flavoured straw paper also made a filling for cigars superior to the genuine leaf, impossible to detect, and left a nearly white ash, just like that of the best quality of tobacco, some surprise might, perhaps, be felt that the cigar-makers in Havannah thought it worth their while to use any tobacco at all in the production of their wares; but it might be so far reassuring to learn that, after all, "the delicate films of paper were interlapped with broken leaves of real tobacco." However, the quantity of this prepared straw paper imported into Havannah was reported to be very considerable. It was said that no Havannah steamer left New York without taking quantities of it, the amount on each occasion varying from 5,000 to 30,000 reams. To this effect the *Scientific American* in 1876; but as late as November 5th, 1880, the *Daily Telegraph* repeated the charge in the following words:—

"Confirmed cigar smokers will learn with pain and discomfiture that *millions of the weeds they love are annually manufactured in the Havannah without so much as a single fibre of tobacco-leaf being utilised in the process of their fabrication.* For some years past the great straw-paper factory in Chatham, New York State, has executed large orders, emanating from certain wealthy Cuban firms, for a peculiar sort of paper, extremely thin and of fine quality, which it has duly made and delivered without troubling itself about the especial purposes for which the article might be required. Recently, however, the manufacturers have discovered that this paper is used for making cigars, which are subsequently exported from Cuba to all parts of the world as genuine Havannah tobacco. Its conversion into imitation leaf is effected as follows:—It is thoroughly soaked in

a solution composed of tobacco-refuse boiled in water, then dried and pressed between stamps, which impart to it the appearance of the finest leaf so exactly as to defy detection on the part of the most experienced tobacco-sorters. Of these paper-leaves are fabricated the spurious cigars above alluded to, the total cost of their production being infinitesimal in comparison to the prices at which they are disposed of wholesale to American and European importers of the fragrant weed. As we are informed, a slight difference of weight between the genuine and the spurious cigar of identical brand and size affords the only certain means of detecting this fraud, so absolutely alike in all their external features are the weeds really made of tobacco and their counterfeit presentments in straw-paper."

This reads painfully circumstantial, and a gentleman of my acquaintance, who is engaged in cigar manufacturing, recently told me that the first mate of the ship in which he was taking his passage from New York to Jamaica assured him that he (the mate) not long before had seen a package fall from the crane while being put on board, and breaking on the deck let this "murder out." And yet a leading cigar manufacturer in London, well versed in every department of the tobacco trade, and a gentleman of unimpeachable honour, has assured me that the whole of the above story is a fabrication. I am quite aware that a statement is not necessarily true because it has been "in print" and gone the "round of the papers;" but then I have the evidence of a gentleman who says he has *seen* a person who has *seen* the paper in question; though, *per contra*, I have the word of another who *knows* that it never existed. Here, then, I must leave the matter, as I have no means of verifying the statement one way or the other; but at the same time I am disinclined to believe it.

Considering that the average importation of *genuine* Havannah cigars into this country is about 500,000 boxes annually, and that each box contains 100 cigars, it can easily be understood what an important factor they are in the life of the richer smoking public. I hope none of this public, who may be among my readers, will be offended at my venturing here to offer a little further instruction which may assist them specially in the selection of "brands," and in obtaining the cigar with the characteristics they desire to find in it. Smokers generally, like Alpine climbers, require a guide. Havannah cigars are among other cigars what the thoroughbred is among the rest of the equine tribe. They are "thoroughbred." But as among thoroughbred horses there are "weeds" and "screws," so among Havannahs there are the same, mere "weeds" and "screws," though to the eye "thoroughbred" cigars. A first-class Havannah, *sans peur et sans reproche*, is a Two Thousand, a Derby, a Leger winner; but one of an inferior growth, the broken-down product of a bad season, though of good pedigree, is but a suburban meeting

plater. *Par parenthèse,* I must be excused this equine parallelism. Just now at Derby-time, accompanied by Horse-shows, and meets of the Coaching and Four-in-Hand Clubs, we all more or less are affected by hippomania; and has not the "blue ribbon" of the English turf just been won by Mr. Pierre Lorillard, an *eminent tobacco manufacturer* in New York—so that just now, at all events, there is a connection between tobacco and horses.

If you want a really good Havannah cigar, the true *Vitola fina* (to use the Havannah term), there is no disguising the fact that you must look for it under the "brands" of a *limited* number of makers. I generally know a good cigar when I see one, and always when I smoke one, and I know something about "brands;" but for the following notes which I am now about to add in reference to some of the most eminent, I am indebted to a member of the old-established and old-fashioned (I use the term in a most complimentary sense) firm, Messrs. Sales, Pollard, & Co., of Farringdon-street, E.C., who are well versed in Havannah traditions, and most trustworthy in all matters appertaining to the tobacco trade. The brands I am about to mention are all made of Vuelta Abajo tobacco, and, like brands of champagne, have their marked characteristics, which are preserved continuously year after year, though the manufacturers interchange their "Vegas" from time to time.

Cabañas. Well known all over the world. Delicate high-class cigars, and free from particular vices. Emphatically gentlemanly cigars, well dressed, and well mannered in burning. This factory makes about 50,000 cigars daily.

Villar y Villar. This maker, who uses his own name for his "brand," has acquired a universal reputation for cigars of high flavour, combined with great delicacy. They may be called the most "æsthetic" cigar we have. Villar y Villar is the "Pommery" of cigars; and his production is probably not more than 20,000 daily.

Partagas has long enjoyed the highest reputation among makers. His cigars have great delicacy, but not much flavour. They are greatly esteemed by the Austrian and French *régies*. His daily make is about 40,000.

Legitimadas. An old brand, coming very prominently forward again. Much esteemed in South America, the United States, and Germany. Has high flavour, delicacy, and great aroma. Very high character throughout. About 25,000 made daily.

Antonio Murias is the "Clicquot" of Havannah makers His cigars are the delight of connoisseurs all over the globe, in a good year when the crop grows free of any taint of guano. Only about 15,000 daily.

Intimidads, manufactured by Antonino Caruncho. One of the two most popular brands in England, and for many years almost without a rival in general sale here. Delicate, free burning, and agreeable; faultless in manufacture. Exactly meet a public demand for a good cigar at 4d. and 6d. Were of uniform quality till 1879, when the importation was unfortunate. This has since been remedied; and the brand is bound to recover itself. The daily make is about 30,000.

Henry Clays. A fancy name. The other great English cigar of universal popularity. Julian Alvarez is the "Moët" of Havannah, and makes "for the million." His cigars are light and dry in flavour, free from oil, and are seldom bad, though they may lack the highest attributes. He employs 500 workmen, and turns out 100,000 cigars daily. I have heard that somehow or other good "Henry Clays" have been difficult to get in this country during the last few years.

Por Larrañagas. Very highly appreciated in England, Germany, and Spain. Excellent cigars, of faultless appearance and good flavour. Good burners. Very safe to purchase of any size or class. The make is only about 15,000 daily.

Flor di Cubas. Most popular in Prussia, Belgium, Holland, and France. Got up with great care; workmanship faultless. Boxes and labels in highest taste. Flavour delicate and agreeable. This cigar is the "D'Orsay" of Havannah. 20,000 to 30,000 daily. Increasing in popularity.

Excellent cigars are also produced under the following brands, though they are not so well known or popular in this country as the above-mentioned:—*Flor di Morales, Upmann, Española, Ramon Allones, Antonio Allones, Carolina, Cabarga Carona, Romeu y Julieta, Eleccion.*

The "sizes" of cigars of the highest class of each brand, most adapted to English tastes, are probably the *Regalia Reinafinas,* of medium size and most carefully-selected leaves. The *Reinas* and *Reinatas* appeal to consumers at lower prices: the tobacco is frequently equal to that of the former sizes, though there is a loss in appearance. The most expensive sizes, such as *Celestiales* and *Rothschilds,* appeal but to a limited public. *Londres, Brevas,* and *Panetelas* are popular on the Continent, but of limited consumption here.

The great factor in a good cigar, as in a wine, is a good crop or vintage. The tobacco crop of 1873 was most excellent, and the next to it in merit since was that of 1877, though somewhat wanting in substance. The crop of the present year (1881) is likely to prove a good, if not a great, crop. At all events, it will be mature, which that of 1879 was not, for want of curing

Northern winds after the tobacco was harvested. Even now the 1879 cigars have not ripened thoroughly, though they have many points of excellence. Anything like good Havannah cigars at a moderate price are, as I have said, very difficult to get, but they are not absolutely things of the past. We must not, however, grumble too much, but take thankfully the "goods the Gods provide us," remembering that we get in this country a very fair proportion of the best and second-best cigars made in Havannah. Indeed the very great majority of the *best* Havannahs comes to this country, while a proportion is sent to Russia and the Brazils. We get also almost all the best of the lighter-coloured and consequently milder cigars. Fortunately for us, the great demand in America and some other countries is for "Maduro" colours, which do not, as a rule, smoke satisfactorily in our climate or keep their condition as well as the "Claros."

By the way, it is a great mistake, though one sanctioned by a long tradition, to suppose that cigars are improved by long keeping, like port wine. Like tea, they gradually lose their aroma, the very essence of their merit. In the days of their prosperity the rich planters of the Southern States smoked the best cigars when "green," and so do "swells" and others in the Havannah at the present time. As a rule, cigars are at their best when they have lost the first moisture of youth and feel moderately firm and solid. Some persons keep their stock of cigars near their kitchen fires; and a friend of mine some years ago thought himself very clever in having a cigar-store constructed under the wooden mantelpiece in his "snuggery," with its back only separated by a brick from the chimney itself. Under the idea he was "maturing" them, he was literally baking out of them whatever goodness they might once have possessed.

I dare hardly venture to lay down any rules whereby the goodness of a cigar may be judged by its appearance; and yet to a great extent it may be. The inside of a cigar of course we cannot see, and a bad inside *may* be wrapped in a good outside. But this is not often the case, though a man may wear a good coat over dirty linen. We must, then, perforce judge by the "wrapper;" and this, in a good Havannah cigar, is minutely "hairy"—or perhaps I might say, covered with a "fluffy bloom," and has a slightly *oily* but not an actually *greasy* appearance. There is a great deal more in the choice of a cigar on account of its outside appearance than one not accustomed to it would suppose. A wrapper which has that which the Cubans call *calidad* makes the cigar much stronger than one which does not possess it. That is to say, that the wrapper which has *calidad*

contains more essential oil than one which has none. The presence of the essential oil is denoted by an abundance of small pustules on the surface of the leaf, and by a general rich, oily appearance. Generally speaking, the value of cigars increases with their size; for, owing to the difficulty of getting good wrappers for the larger kinds, the expense of their manufacture is much increased. Upon one occasion, in Havannah, a manufacturer received an order for a thousand cigars intended for a present for the Queen of Spain's husband, Don Francisco de Asis, which he agreed to make for 1000 dollars. They were delivered in due time, and, packed in a richly-mounted cedar chest, were sent to the Royal recipient. They were magnificent cigars, of the *cazadores* (huntsmen), or longest size, all of the same colour, and so smoothly made as to look as if they had been turned out of hard wood, instead of made of rolled tobacco. They were placed on exhibition for a few days before they were sent to Spain, and a gentleman who saw them, wishing to make a present to some dignitary, asked the manufacturer to make him a like number at the same price. To his surprise, the order was refused. The manufacturer said he could not do it for the money. His explanation was that it was not the actual cost of the tobacco and the labour of making them, but it was on account of the trouble and expense met with in selecting the wrappers. He said he had to pick over thousands of bales before he could secure a sufficient number of the proper length, colour, and fineness. We may take it, therefore, that a good wrapper generally indicates a good cigar.

A good cigar!—there is a charm in the very words. "The value of a good cigar," Prince Bismarck has said, "is best understood when it is the last you possess and there is no chance of getting another." It is related that he gave the last cigar he had cherished all through a battle to a wounded dragoon. In his his own words:—"I painted in glowing colours in my mind the happy hour when I should enjoy it after the victory. But I had miscalculated my chances. A poor dragoon lay helpless with both arms crushed, murmuring for something to refresh him. I felt in my pockets, and found that I had only gold, and that would be of no use to him. But stay—I had still my treasured cigar! I lighted this for him and placed it between his teeth. You should have seen the poor fellow's grateful smile. I never enjoyed a cigar so much as that one, which I did not smoke." When happily we have got in a fair stock of good cigars, it seems that they will never come to an end. We smoke them freely ourselves, and are liberal with them, I hope, to our friends. And then comes the time, suddenly as it were, when we find the stock has almost run out. We then often begin to appreciate

them more than we did, and our appreciation increases as the cigars decrease, till at last we come to the last surviving representative of the original stock. A good cigar! Where shall we get another?

I hardly know how to answer the question I have just propounded. We cannot—at least, not many of us—go to the Havannah and make friends of one or more of the big manufacturers, and laden ourselves with boxes of choice brands which they might as a favour permit us to buy. We are in the hands of the dealers at home practically, and all I can advise my readers to do is to go to a good house which takes a pride in supplying a customer with a good Havannah, and cherishes its reputation as carefully as it does its balance at its bankers. I can say from personal knowledge that such a house is that of Messrs. Sales, Pollard, & Co., of Farringdon Road, to a member of which, as I have already acknowledged, I am greatly indebted for most of the foregoing remarks on "brands." It is to this gentleman also, with whom I have had many a long chat about smoke, smoking, and smokers, I am indebted for a very ingenious theory, if I may so call it, in reference to Havannah cigars, which he propounded—to the effect that one great feature in Havannah cigars, and peculiar to them, was the fact that very few in a box were exactly like each other in flavour and character, or, in other words, that each cigar had its "individuality;" and further, that this was the great charm in smoking them, the interest being kept up, as in a lottery, by drawing blanks as well as prizes, while even many blanks were more than compensated for securing now and then a super-excellent prize. But, assuming as a fact (though as a fact I more than question it), this great variation in a box of Havannah cigars, it is by no means a comforting one to buyers of Havannah cigars, if they do not possess the imaginative or philosophic mind of my friend. I can quite understand how a toothache may be almost worth having for the intense pleasure of getting rid of it, or being in any trouble for the relief at its removal; but I cannot understand how the badness of a bad cigar really enhances the pleasure of a good one, any more than I can realise the eating of a bad egg or bad oyster as a desirable preparation of eating a good one.

But I will smoke over the matter when I have concluded this portion of the present chapter with just a word or two in reference to the "duty" on foreign cigars as distinguished from unmanufactured tobacco. This duty was once as high as 18/ per lb., and in the year 1823 only 26 lbs. of cigars were imported. The duty was then reduced, and the return for 1824 showed over 15,000 lbs. After this there was a falling off, but the return for

1830 records an importation of nearly 250,000 lbs. In the last-mentioned year the 18/ duty was reduced to 9/, and at this it remained till 1863, when it was lowered to 5/, at which figure it now stands. I may add that there seems no demand, and indeed no necessity, for any further reduction. The total quantity of Havannah cigars "cleared" for home consumption last year was 5432 cases, containing 10,000 cigars each, taking an average of the larger and smaller sizes. The stock in hand on December 31st, 1881, was 2564 cases. I may add that of Continental and cigars (not including Manillas) from other parts, such as East India, &c., there were cleared 2480 cases, containing on an average 20,000 cigars each. Of these the stock in hand at the end of last year was 1781 cases.

The next foreign "weeds" which claim attention are

MANILLAS.

These, I need hardly say, are divided into cigars and cheroots, the latter being the most popular form in this country. Few, too, perhaps, of my readers need being informed that Manilla tobacco is a product of the Philippine Islands in the Eastern Archipelago, of which group Luzon is the largest, having for its capital Manilla. These islands were first discovered by Ferdinand Magellan in 1521, but it was not till 1565 that they were taken possession of by the Spanish Government. A good deal of tobacco is grown in the different islands and sent to Spain and elsewhere to be consumed, but that with which we are familiar in the form of cigars and cheroots (the tobacco being exactly the same in both) is grown in the provinces of Cagayan, Ysabella, Illio Illio, and Igorrete, in Luzon. The whole of the tobacco manufacture is in the hands of the Government, which also regulates the culture of the plant, all the farmers being obliged to grow a certain quantity and accept the price offered for it by the Government. The tobacco so acquired is taken to the Government workshops, and divided into four different classes according to the size of the leaf and its quality, Nos. 1 and 2 being the best. It is then made into cigars and cheroots entirely by female labour, which are sold by public auction at so many dollars per 1000. The seed from which the Manilla tobacco is grown came originally from the West Indies, but its character has entirely changed through the difference in soil and climate, as is the case with most seeds and cuttings under similar circumstances. The rank tobacco of Holland was first produced from the best American seed.

Last year there were cleared for home consumption in this

country 1376 cases of Manillas of 10,000 each; and on the 31st of December last the stock in hand was 846 cases. Thus, though the quantity is comparatively small when contrasted with that of other cigars, it is evident a good deal of Manilla smoking goes on among us. And there are no smokers more enthusiastic on the subject of their "smokes" than Manilla smokers. They swear by this kind of tobacco, and assert its supremacy over all other varieties. A great proportion of "Anglo-Indians" will have no other, and avow that no other is worth smoking. Of course this is a question *de gustibus;* but Manilla smokers have a decidedly good foundation for their enthusiasm. Manilla tobacco is not only a tobacco most different in flavour from all other tobaccos in the world, a tobacco *sui generis* (like a Thames trout among all other trouts), but its flavour, though mild, is remarkably fine, and I think I may add very seductive, as it is also very soothing. And here let me make a note to the effect that this specially soothing property of Manilla cigars and cheroots is not attributable to the presence of opium. There is a popular idea that this narcotic is used in their manufacture, but is an utterly erroneous one. The fact that the value of opium is more than four times greater than that of the tobacco is quite sufficient to show that it would not be used. In addition to the large number of enthusiastic and regular smokers of Manilla tobacco, there are many who take to it occasionally, and then, after an "innings" of longer or shorter duration, lay it aside again for a time. They fancy that the peculiar taste palls upon them; but then, strangely enough, after a period of intermission, suddenly there comes upon them a positive craving for a Manilla, which tastes like a positively new Nicotian sensation. I can certainly say that this is my own experience.

In the manufacture of a cheroot, the centre stalk of the leaf is extracted, and the leaf is so cut and wrapped that the veins (*i.e.*, the "lateral ribs") run along the side of the cheroot, or, in other words, parallel to its length, whereas in cigars of all other kinds the inside leaf is so wrapped that the veins twist round the cigar spirally like a corkscrew. Manillas vary in quality according to the year's crop, and they are apt to go wrong in transit, and become almost worthless. The Manilla cigars, more so than the cheroots, are liable to be attacked by little black worms, which impart a bitter flavour to the "weed," and make it difficult to draw, and at times their ravages are so extended that the whole fabric of the cigar is much damaged. It is a comfort, however, to know that there are no such things in the market as sham or adulterated Manillas. I have been told that some of the Manilla fields are getting worn out, like some Havannah

fields already alluded to, and this might account to some extent for the bad cheroots which sometimes come to hand, coupled with the fact above stated, that Manillas have a tendency, hardly noticeable in other cigars, to go wrong after making. But I think the far more probable account to be given of the deterioration of Manillas is the fact that the plant is not cultivated so carefully as it was, nor the crop so carefully treated. The Spanish Government, as everyone knows, is often sadly in want of money, and often sells or uses its tobacco before it is "ripe." No tobacco improves so much by keeping unexposed to the air as does Manilla, but the Government cannot afford to keep it. Then, again, as the Government keeps the planters out of their money as long as it likes, the planters or growers take less interest than they used to do in the cultivation of the plant. The packing of the cigars and cheroots is also often carelessly done, the labels and other paper about the boxes being damp with paste. This causes a fermentation among the cigars, which, with the boxes, arrrive here in a dilapidated state. Buyers, therefore, though they need not fear adulteration, may often get a very bad article foisted on them, and, therefore, as I have suggested in the case of Havannah cigars, their best plan is only to deal where the character of the sellers is such that there need be no fear of getting inferior goods. I was recently looking over the large stock of Manillas held by Messrs. Bramble and Wilkins, of 2 Billiter-street, E.C., to whom I have alluded in Chapter I., and to whom I am indebted for much valuable information. They are among the largest importers of this class of "weed." I did my best to find a flaw in some of the consignments, but was unable to find one, the whole stock being remarkably sound and in good condition. Take them all in all, I think that Manillas are the best foreign cigars we get at the price. The sizes of Manilla weeds manufactured are many. Those which are most used in this country are named Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, both of "Cortados" (cheroots) and "Habeños" (cigars). But in both there is an intermediate size between Nos. 1 and 2, called "Neuvo;" and there is no No. 5 of cheroots. A small cheroot with the small end in your mouth is about the handiest and most comfortable smoke we have presented to us. The absurd practice of putting the large end into the mouth has no foundation or reason in it, but is a mere fashion, distortful of the lips and wasteful of a good thing. I cannot accept the theory that the large end placed in the mouth acts as a sponge, which intercepts the "nicotine."

"Bengal cheroots" have no connection with Manillas, but are produced from tobacco grown in the Bengal Presidency. They are

of various sizes, and are perfectly round, with both ends slightly pointed. The tobacco is very strong, and I have been told that when made the cheroots are buried for twelve months in earth to tone them down. Those with a straw run through them are known by the name of "Chinsurah."

The next foreign cigars about which I shall say a few words are

JAMAICA CIGARS.

But by these I do not mean cigars merely made of Jamaica tobacco and manufactured in Hamburgh, Holland, and elsewhere than at Jamaica itself, but real Jamaica cigars manufactured in Jamaica. As I have previously observed, a cigar is not, properly speaking, an Havannah cigar simply because it is *made* of Havannah or Cuban-grown tobacco, but only so when it is made in Cuba. The necessary re-damping of tobacco when manufactured into cigars in any country after its importation impairs the character of that tobacco, and is a bar to the manufactured cigars being named after the country of their original growth.

Now, tobacco was probably grown in Jamaica as early as it was in Cuba, and probably the natives made it into rough cigars as early as the Cubans, who, as mentioned a few pages back, were found by Columbus smoking their native weeds in 1492. At all events, from the time Jamaica was colonized by the Spaniards in the early part of the sixteenth century, tobacco has been cultivated in the island. Its consumption, however, has, till within the last few years, comparatively speaking, been confined to the inhabitants, and not found its way into foreign markets—and this for the simple reason that anything like a methodical cultivation of the plant is but still in its infancy. A real Jamaica cigar, though of a very rough character, had for some time been made and smoked at home; but a real Jamaica cigar in the English market was not even talked about till within the last ten years. And when it was talked about—a good deal, in fact, some five or six years ago—the article introduced was not a *real* Jamaica cigar at all, but of Dutch or some other European manufacture, and only bearing the same relation to a *real* Jamaica cigar as a "Britisher" does to a *real* Havannah. The public verdict was against these cigars; and it is evident that Jamaica tobacco deteriorates by re-damping even more than does Cuban.

But now—just at the time I am preparing a Second Edition of "Tobacco Whiffs"—we are again invited to try *real* Jamaicas, which I am bound to say come to us with all the credentials of "Real Jam—," if I may be pardoned for this feeble attempt at a verbal joke. And why, let me ask, should we not have real Jamaica cigars of good flavour and character as we have Cuban or Havannah cigars? Jamaica is situated in what we may call the great zone of fine tobacco growth; it is only 87 miles south of Cuba; and the conditions of its soil and climate are similar to those of that island; and we may even go further, and say that some climatic conditions of Jamaica for the cultivation of

first-class tobacco are even more favourable than those of Cuba. For instance, whereas in only one part of Cuba, the famous Vuelta Abajo, the soil is annually replenished by the alluvial deposits of floods and detritus from mountains, there are very many valleys in Jamaica thus annually enriched. This is a very important point, as tobacco can only be produced with success on the richest soil, and no plant absorbs so large a proportion of mineral elements from it; and therefore a continual replenishment of it is absolutely necessary —a replenishment which cannot be thoroughly effected by the use of manures, or so to speak, artificial stimulants.

A far more important question, however, is whether Jamaica actually *does* offer a cigar which may vie with a real and good Havannah. This Messrs. THOMPSON AND WEITZMANN, the proprietors of the POTOSI freehold estate in Jamaica, boldly answer in the affirmative, and as far as my judgment goes, after most careful experiment, their answer is founded on a most solid foundation. The Potosi estate is situated in the Parish of St. Thomas, at the eastern side of the island, not many miles from Kingston, and is as admirably adapted as the Cuban Vuelta Abajo itself for the cultivation of prime tobacco. The seed procured by Messrs. THOMPSON AND WEITZMANN is the finest Havannah, and the process of cultivation and manufacture is identical with that pursued in that district, and carried out by the most experienced hands from Cuba. The product of their enterprise has been on sale for more than a year, by their sole wholesale Agents, Messrs. Gaspard, Bell, and Co., of 46 Queen Victoria Street. The opinion I have formed of the "Potosi" cigars is one shared by many "tasteful" friends with whom I have long been associated in testing various foods, solid and liquid, and we have seldom held more pleasant consultations than over the Potosis. These cigars will compare with the best, and are vastly superior to ordinary Havannahs such as one meets with in these degenerate days. They have a "full" tobacco flavour, but are generally "milder" than Havannahs, and entirely free from that bitter taste with which smokers are but too familiar. Several friends and myself have remarked that the more you smoke Potosis the more "satisfying" do they become, even to palates which are accustomed to *very* full-flavoured weeds. The Potosis burn very evenly, will carry a two-inch ash without danger to one's shirt-front or waistcoat, and you may lay one down on your study table, take a turn round your garden, or make an expedition into your cellar, and find it alight on your return—three signs, as all who know anything about smoking are aware, of good cigars. I have subjected also the Potosis to a test which I claim to be of my own invention, and a good one as far as it goes, viz., to smoke a cigar half way, let it go out, and smoke the other half twenty-four hours afterwards. A really good cigar will stand this: and I find the Potosis do. One peculiarity of the Potosi is that, unlike most other cigars, they do not vary much in strength of flavour, according to the colour of the leaf; and though they have not

the often wet or greasy look of a "British" cigar, they have not the "hairy" or "fluffy" appearance of the genuine Havannah. At the Philadelphia Exhibition of 1876, in competition with the whole world, the Potosi Leaf Tobacco obtained the First Prize Medal, and the First Diploma of Merit; and therefore it is hardly a matter for wonder that Messrs. THOMPSON and WEITZMANN now manufacture a really first-class cigar. They have also received from Professor J. A. Wanklyn, M.R.C.S., who made a most minute analysis of the Potosi cigars and compared them most carefully with the principal Havannah brands, the following certificate:—

"Laboratory, 7 Westminster Chambers,
"London, November 30, 1880.

"I have examined THOMPSON and WEITZMANN'S Potosi Cigars. I find that the Potosi cigars are made of genuine tobacco of excellent quality. They are free from all traces of guano, and are to be preferred to those cigars which, being made of tobacco grown on highly-manured soils, are liable to become tainted."

Everyone knows the importance of the testimony of Professor Wanklyn, which in this case is specially valuable, as it is doubtless also the testimony of Mr. W. J. Cooper, his able coadjutor, who is a very reliable authority in this matter. This guano flavour, which impregnates many inferior cigars from Havannah, has already been alluded to a few pages back. I have no doubt in my own mind but that a fair trial of Potosi cigars will in almost every case procure them an additional advocate, and that when the general public come to know what they profess to be and what they really are, the former prejudice raised by "*Hamburg*-Jamaica" and "*British*-Jamaica" cigars a few years ago will not militate against the Potosis. However, for the benefit of the unwary buyers, I may mention as a precaution (though not always an infallible one in the matter of cigars) that the Potosi cigars are only sold in boxes (not *bundles)* branded with the names of "THOMPSON & WEITZMANN," and labelled with their trade-mark.

Following the custom of the trade, Messrs. THOMPSON & WEITZMANN produce several "brands" (or, more strictly speaking, "sizes") of their cigars, which, as usual, are indicative rather of their size and shape than of their quality—though, by the way, it may be noted that, as a rule, the larger the cigar the finer the leaf used and the more care exercised in the making. I notice that there are ten brands in all of the Potosi cigars, headed by the fancy-named "Exceptionales"—veritable rolling-pins of tobacco, weighing nearly 3 lbs. the hundred. You may light one of these, say, at the Temple-bar Griffin, and find yourself at your destination in Brighton without it having once gone out. The "Imperials" bear an old name, and one hundred of them weigh 2 lbs. 3 ozs. The "Veguero Finos" remind one somewhat of the old "Plantas." A stout cigar is the "United Service Extra," giving a good three-quarters of an hour smoke; and a smaller edition of it is the "Comme il Faut." The "Prince of Wales" are smaller Vegueros, got up with special

care, the bundles being wrapped in tinfoil, and they seem to be made of a specially-selected leaf. Let me remark for the benefit of my friends that they suggest an excellent medium for making presents! The smallest cigars are the "Young Ladies"—the name of a well-known Havannah brand. Perhaps in addition to their being very handy little smokes when one longs for or has only time for a few whiffs, they are intended as temptations for young ladies to smoke. Not very long ago this brand led to some unpleasant complications at the head telegraphic department in London. "Forward some Young Ladies by next train," was the message; and the reply, "We have only a few of the right sort left in stock," was considered of such a character as to demand explanation by the officials. In the hope that my remarks may perchance fall into the hands of Messrs. THOMPSON & WEITZMANN, their representatives in London, or any gentleman associated in this spirited venture, I take the liberty of suggesting that a new brand of Potosis might be called "Patriots," in commemoration of the establishment of an industry which may tend in a very marked manner to revive the fortunes of an old and once prosperous possession of England, while "Potosi Patriots" is a title which commends itself if only for its alliteration.

All the Potosi cigars are well made, but each year an improvement may be fully expected, as the infant industry develops itself, as also an improvement in the flavour and quality of the cigars themselves, as a purely virgin soil becomes better adapted for any production, and especially that of tobacco after two or three years' cultivation. The Potosis are not offered to the public as a *cheap* cigar, the cost of their production being really greater than that of Havannahs, owing to all labour in Jamaica being *free*, while in Cuba slaves are still forced to work for the benefit of their fellow-men, and the fact that they have not to pass through so many "hands" as do Havannahs before they get to the consumer. At the same time the price of Potosis can be favourably compared with that of first-class Havannahs, the cost of which has doubled itself within the last ten years. The Potosis do not profess to compete with any other cigars. There is room for Havannahs—I may say bad as well as good—for British cigars, for Manillas and cigarettes, and indeed for any number of "smokes" from all parts of the world. The Potosis freely challenge criticism, and are content to stand or fall on their own merits. I have also had the privilege of recently tasting some of the first Potosi leaf "cut" in this country. It is admirable in flavour, reminding one of Latakia; and to many smokers I feel sure it will be most acceptable when mixed with a little "Virginia."

Perhaps I may have bored some of my readers with this long tirade about Potosis, but I think the probability of the manufacture of cigars in Jamaica and exportation therefrom, marking an epoch in the history of smoking, is a sufficient excuse for me. I cannot, however, leave the subject without adding a few words on the future of tobacco

cultivation in that country, in addition to those already made. At the present time only about one-tenth of Cuba, or an area about equal to that of Jamaica, is under cultivation by the Spaniards, the rest being more or less uncultivatable and in possession of the Cubans, who for years have been struggling for independence. Now, the annual value of tobacco and cigars exported from Cuba is £8,000,000, a sum highly suggestive of what might be done in Jamaica, a very large portion of which is admirably adapted for the cultivation of superior tobacco. There are at present but few estates where the cultivation of tobacco on the Cuban principle is being carried out. In all cases, however, success has attended enterprise, and one estate alone, about five years ago, produced a first crop of tobacco worth £15,000. The Potosi estate has been a special success, even beyond the expectations of its proprietors. Sir J. P. Grant, to whose wise and energetic rule the vitality which is now beginning to characterise the trade of our West Indian Possessions is in great part due, reported in a *Blue Book*, issued about five years ago, that "the cultivation of tobacco has been commenced on a respectable scale and with commercial success in the parish of St Andrew's, for the skilled labour on which, Cubans, accustomed to the cultivation of the plant and the manufacture of cigars, are employed. The collector reports that the quality of the cigars now produced ranks with that of Havannah tobacco. Several small settlers from Cuba are turning their attention to tobacco cultivation." Further on, in the same report, he added, as an indication of the extension of the new industry, that he had observed mentioned amongst the advantages set forth in advertisements for the sale of small properties, and as an inducement to purchasers, the adaptability of the land for the cultivation of tobacco. "And," he concluded, "for myself I do not entertain a doubt that tobacco of fine quality will very soon rank as one of the great staple exports of the colony." That this benevolent prophecy is in progress of being completely fulfilled is best proved by an official report concerning Jamaica, which was published not many months ago amongst some papers referring to her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, issued in the form of a *Blue Book*. From this document it appears that tobacco cultivation has now taken its place amongst the industries of the colony. The report pronounces the cigars manufactured to be "excellent in quality and *quite equal to some of the best Cuban brands*." "They have," it adds, "certainly earned a name for themselves in the island itself, where a prejudice against home-made cigars at one time deservedly existed." A few years ago also a writer in the *Journal of the Society of Arts* remarked upon the improving quality of Jamaican tobacco, and stated that some tobacco from Retreat Plantation, in the parish of Clarendon, which had only cost at the rate of £4 per bale to grow and prepare for exportation, was estimated in the European market to be worth 3/6 per lb., *i.e.*, £17 10/ per bale. To these testimonies may be added that of Mr. Gallenga, the *Times* Commissioner, who after a thorough examination

of the two islands stated his high opinion of the value of Jamaica as a tobacco-producing country. I append also an extract from a report of Sir Joseph Hooker which apeared in the *Times* of January, 1879 :— "The history of the development of the tobacco industry in Jamaica appears to me to be so instructive as to what may be done by enterprise and energy in developing new sources of wealth in our Colonies, that I may, I trust, be excused for once more reverting to a subject treated of in former reports and placing on record some information most kindly supplied to me by his excellency Sir Anthony Musgrave, Governor of the Island. He writes : 'You will see from the Statements of Exports that from nothing before 1871, the value of tobacco and cigars sent out amounted to nearly £5,000 in 1876-77. But this represents but a small portion of the production, because our own consumption is now supplied from domestic sources. I am a smoker myself in moderation, *and I do not wish for better cigars than I get here.* The manufacture I think particularly good.'" I notice in Mr. D. Morris' Annual Report of the Public Gardens and Plantations of Jamaica that the value of leaf and cigars exported in 1879 had risen to close on £10,000. Mr. Morris takes special interest in the cultivation of tobacco in the Island, and in the interesting and valuable Report referred to, says :— "As a feature worthy of note it may be mentioned that hitherto most of the tobacco produced here has been grown in natural soil without manuring, and in many cases with but ordinary tillage. The *Cubans nevertheless seem quite convinced that Jamaica tobacco is equal in every respect to the best Havannah produce*, and there are satisfactory evidences that higher methods of culture and more systematic and careful systems of manufacture are being inaugurated, which must result in giving greater permanence and value to this promising industry."

Taking all things into consideration, I feel fully convinced that there is a grand future for the cultivation of tobacco in Jamaica; and as about eight years ago, when American oysters were first introduced into this country, and almost universally decried by the British public, (which seems at first by a kind of national instinct to reject anything new offered to it), I emphatically predicted in the columns of the *Standard* that they would eventually be eaten in this country by millions; so now I venture to say that Jamaica tobacco and cigars will rank among our staple Nicotian importations. I would strongly urge young men who "have no work to do," and yet a little money in their pockets, to consider the advisability of starting as tobacco cultivators in Jamaica. There are many old sugar and coffee plantations to be had at most reasonable rent, on which the old buildings can be easily converted into storing and curing sheds. The entire cost of starting an estate, and on a comparatively magnificent scale, need not exceed £500, a mere trifle when compared with the capital necessary to start sugar or coffee plantations. British enterprise might easily convert Kingston into a "Modern Havannah," and make Jamaica, even more than her sister island, the veritable "Pearl of the Antilles."

By the way, I find that a poet has already broken out in praise of the Potosis—thus,

If things are going to the bad
And fortune is not rosy,
There's still some comfort to be had
By smoking a Potosi.

Bring out the toddy, light the lamp,
And make the room look cosy;—
What matter if the weather's damp,
When dry is your Potosi?

Then when the hours are growing small,
When heads are getting dozy,
Before you go to rest you'll call
A blessing on Potosi.

It has just come to my knowledge at the moment of going to press that the King of Belgium and the Count of Flanders have had several boxes of the Potosis, and have had their appreciation of them specially conveyed by letter to Messrs. Thompson and Weitzmann. They have the credit of being excellent judges of a weed.

The cigars which remain to be considered are

BRITISH CIGARS.

These form a very large proportion of the total of cigars smoked in this country, and I shall dwell at some little length upon them, as there exists, I fancy, considerable ignorance as regards their production, and a great prejudice against their use. There is no good reason why a British cigar should be contemptuously spoken of, as it often is, simply because it is "British," *i.e.*, manufactured in this country. It is really the only cigar which supplies the demand for a fair "smoke" at a moderate price; the only substitute, in fact, for a "foreign" cigar, *i.e.*, for an Havannah. The word "foreign," as used in the trade, I may remark, does not include cigars made on the continent and imported into this country, and which in quality are immeasurably inferior to even common English-made cigars. British cigars are seldom made of any continental tobacco; and when they are, of course they are as bad as "continentals," though perhaps manufactured with a little more refinement. Our manufacturers derive their material chiefly from the West Indies, and from North and South America, while the Eastern world, including, of course, Manilla, adds to their supplies.

The chief objection to a "British" cigar, of whatever tobacco it is made, is that the tobacco must come to this country in a perfectly dry state, and then be subjected to a redamping and a kind of refermentation before it can be manipulated. This, it is generally considered, causes a deterioration in the flavour of the tobacco, and perhaps to some slight extent it may do so. But it must be remembered that Havannah tobacco has to be redamped in the factories in Havannah before it can be manufactured into cigars, at least after it has been

harvested for some weeks or months. There has, however, been a marked improvement in the treatment of tobacco and the manufacture of cigars in this country; and now, given a good "leaf," a very good cigar can be turned out, in many cases so good that it may vie with the best Havannahs. It is the cheapness of British cigars which with many smokers, I think, raises a prejudice against them in their minds. But this is most unreasonable, when the state of the market is taken into consideration. Cigars made in this country of the *pure Havannah tobacco* of the size generally in use can be retailed with a moderate profit at from 18/ to 20/ per box of 100 (1lb. 2 oz., about, in weight); but the *same* tobacco manufactured in Havannah could not be sold with the same rate of profit under 30/ to 32/. Here is a large percentage difference in price; and yet I venture to say that the actual difference between the cigars themselves in flavour and general character would be more imaginary than real. But when cheaper varieties of tobacco are used, the manufactured cigars can be sold at not more than one half the price of Havannah-made; and in many instances they will be superior in all points to the latter. From what I have already said in reference to the deterioration of Havannah tobacco, it comes to pass that in one sense the English has an advantage over the Havannah manufacture—for the latter is obliged to use all he can get of native growth, good, bad, and indifferent; whereas the former, with ample capital, has the command of all the markets of the world for his material, and no legislative restrictions to interfere with him. Hence there is a considerable amount of reliability in the cigars manufactured in our leading factories, which is by no means the characteristic of the cigars produced in the bulk of the "Fabricas de Havana." How very many of these are absolute disappointments every smoker can testify, and if he would but fairly compare them with the produce of our own factories, he would in many cases come to the conclusion that an earlier acquaintance with our "home-made" smokes would often have spared his purse and his temper. Even the cheaper British cigars, manufactured by a first-class firm, burn more evenly, keep alight better, and generally smoke more pleasantly than low-priced Havannahs. A British-made cigar stands upon its own merits. Some are made of the best Havannah tobacco throughout, and in that case are but little inferior to the best foreign make; but as more profit can be obtained by mauufacturing Havannah tobacco abroad, little of the *very* best is sent unmanufactured to this country, or at least little in the way of perfect leaves fit for wrappers. Hence the majority of the best British cigars, which are filled with Havannah, have their wrappers of Manilla or some other good variety of tobacco, almost as dear, and sometimes dearer, than Havannah. In cigar making, generally speaking, a variety of tobaccos is used—a judicious "blending," as in the case of manufacturing "cut" tobaccos, being part of the manufacturer's business. Thus it comes to pass, that the outside wrapper is generally of a different

variety of tobacco to that used for the "bunch," but it may be generally assumed that the best "inside" is wrapped in the best "outside." The degree of excellence of a British cigar, as also of a foreign-made one, depends on the quality of the tobacco used, some costing as much as nine shillings and more per pound, without the duty; and in the purchase of cigars, as most other articles, the customer's chief safeguard consists in the respectability of the wholesale and retail dealer. It is a very common thing for smokers to turn up their noses at "British" cigars, but the prejudice against them is, to a great extent, illfounded. That there are many bad British cigars manufactured is certain, but the same is the case as to "foreign" cigars, and of bad cigars of both sorts it would be difficult to say which is the worst. It is certain that a good British cigar is very superior to a second-class foreign one, and when we consider the scarcity and dearness of first-class foreign cigars, very moderate ones not being obtainable under thirty shillings per pound (reckoning about one hundred of those of a medium size as making this weight), a cigar smoker under present circumstances cannot do better than smoke British cigars, the best of which he can obtain at about two-thirds of the above-named price.

Do not, however, let it be supposed that I am urging that British cigars generally are all that a smoker should desire. We must be as discriminating in the selection of British cigars as we are, or try to be, in the selection of "foreign." Some of the smaller London factories, and the majority, I believe, in the provinces, use the commonest of tobacco; but then it must be remembered that they make chiefly for the million, which will have its "penny smoke!" But here let me repeat what I have already said in reference to the adulteration of tobacco. Practically it amounts to nothing. Parliamentary inquiry and independent investigation of samples have shown that spurious and adulterated cigars are not made in this country, nor, indeed, in any part of the world. The traditional cabbage-leaf theory, for all practical purposes, is a myth. "Little" men may use the vilest possible tobacco and dip their goods in infusions, and perhaps occasionally experiment on a few leaves other than those of tobacco—but spurious cigars do not exist in the trade. The adulteration of cigars could be instantly detected by the merest tyro, as no other vegetable when burnt approaches the smell of tobacco, even of the commonest kind. Under the microscope a tobacco leaf presents unmistakable features of its identity; and even if it were possible to use any other plant in the manufacture of a cigar, no first-class house would dream of so doing, for from a mere worldly point of view they would be the losers, as it would inevitably happen that their fraud would be detected by the Excise officers, or exposed by their own workpeople.

And this leads me to say a few words about a visit which I recently made to a first-class British cigar manufactory. I was anxious to find one of the best in the trade, and I was fortunate enough to find what I was afterwards assured was the leading house of all, in the manufactory

of Messss Morris and Sons, Half Moon Passage, Whitechapel, E. Perhaps some of my readers may have associated the East of London with bad cigars, and have an idea that nothing good could come out of Whitechapel. The simple reason that so many tobacco manufactories are in this district is that it is within easy reach of the Docks, and was the locality in which the industry was first established. The firm of Messrs Morris and Sons was founded as long ago as the year 1826, and is now carried on by the sons of its founder, B. Morris. The latter died little more than a year ago, at the age of 88, and was probably at the time of his death the oldest cigar manufacturer in the world; certainly the *oldest in England.* No other cigar manufacturing business has remained in the same family for an equal period of time. When the late senior partner commenced the trade, cigar making in England was just in its infancy. Only three or four small manufactories were then in existence, and exclusively in London. It was a considerable time after this that they were established in Liverpool, and subsequently in other provincial towns. Mr B. Morris was a native of Hamburg, the place from which the trade was first imported into this country, and from which all the journeymen were brought over in the early times. It is said that cigar making was introduced then, and greatly encouraged by means of the French military occupation, and that the establishment of factories was greatly favoured by the first Napoleon in order to injure this country. Messrs. Morris' factory employs about 500 workmen, and, increasing with the increase of consumption, still remains the largest in London. Their production is confined to the best, not the cheapest goods, and it is their aim to maintain their well-established reputation for quality rather than for quantity. As they use chiefly the more costly growths of tobacco, the work is not carried on by the cheap labour of females or children, but entirely by experienced journeymen, at the highest rate of wages paid in the trade. Where the best classes of tobacco are exclusively used, cheap labour is not so much an object as careful, efficient labour (even at a higher rate of remuneration), and for obvious reasons. Cigar-making requires considerable skill on the part of the operatives, and the quality of a cigar partly depends on its careful workmanship. Messrs. Morris' production amounts to about a box and a quarter per minute. Now each box holds a hundred cigars; and, therefore, if you take nine hours as the working day, and six days as the working 52 weeks of the year, and do a little sum in multiplication, you will have the number of cigars Messrs. Morris make in the course of a year.

The factory covers a considerable extent of ground, and is mainly carried on in two separated floors. These are well ventilated, and lighted *au jour* from above. The utmost cleanliness and good order are exacted. No confusing noises among the numerous workmen can be tolerated. While at work they converse with their neighbours, but not in a manner to give an impression of disorder, but

rather that of cheerful repose. The buildings have entrances in the two parallel streets between which they extend. In their plan the objects of light and air, and that of practical efficiency for the trade, have been kept in view, in preference to external elegance of elevation, to which the site, indeed, would not be appropriate. It has been chosen for its proximity to the docks and the dwellings of the workmen. In London certain trades cluster in the same neighbourhood, and the establishment of this old factory probably contributed to make this the original centre of the trade.

The process of cigar making as carried on by Messrs Morris is substantially the same as that adopted in other establishments, though with manifold more convenience, and with a stricter eye to order and cleanliness. The leaf tobacco for cigar making, generally in packages weighing from one to three hundredweight, is first subjected to moisture, in order that the leaves may be opened without breaking, and become as pliable as a thin piece of kid. The next process is the "stripping," or extraction of the stalk from the leaf. This is done generally by folding the leaf and cutting under both sides of the thin end of the stalk. The stripper retaining the hold thus given, and securing the two sides of the leaf in the left hand, rapidly draws out the large central stalk without disturbing the minor branches which cross the leaf, or tearing the leaf in any degree—a facility of hand only to be obtained by practice, for a leaf would soon be torn to shreds by a person unused to the work, while practised strippers can take the stalk out of a hundredweight of tobacco in a wondrously short time without any risk to the leaf. Some leaf is packed abroad with the stalk already extracted, and is termed "strip leaf" by the English manufacturer. The stripped leaves are next sorted into colours and sizes, for making the outside wrappers of the cigars. Each maker sits at a table with a square board of beechwood in front of him, and a small pot of gum by his side. A knife, something like a leather-cutter's, and his fingers, are his only tools. To each maker a certain quantity of broken tobacco, and torn leaves, called "fillers," a certain quantity of more perfect leaves, called "bunch wrappers," and a further supply of perfect ones, called a "pad," are weighed out; and from these he has to make a certain number of cigars, of a given shape and length, as instructed by the foreman. He begins the actual formation of the cigar by collecting into a roll the small pieces and cuttings, and enclosing them in a part of one of the "bunch wrapper" leaves, which forms the inside wrapper. This roll is called the "bunch," which, when enclosed in the outside wrapper, becomes the fully-made cigar. The application of the outside "wrapper" is the most difficult part of the work, requiring great nicety of manipulation: no mean consideration being the economising of the perfect leaves, which are of more costly tobacco than that used for the "filler," and making them go as far as possible. Hence great judgment is required in so cutting them as to get the greatest number of wrappers from each leaf. These are then wrapped

round with the "bunches," and the pointed end is dexterously formed with the fingers and thumb, occasionally aided by the end of the knife, a small quanity of gum being used in finishing it off. The cigars having been tested in a guage and trimmed to their proper length, are then given to the foreman, who despatches them to the "sorting" room, where they are divided into their several colours, and tied in bundles. In the "drying" room they are subjected partially to artificial heat, and partially "air dried," and then placed in chests to mature.

In the very best work a cigar is formed entirely by the hands of the workman, and his skill enables him to produce in this way, with the utmost accuracy and uniformity, any shape or size he desires. To provide a means whereby a less skilful workman can produce a similar result, and especially with a view to produce a well-formed and uniform cigar at a *lower* price, a mould can be used to give the required shape to the "bunch" or inside of the cigar, upon which the outer leaf or "wrapper" is subsequently rolled. Moulds are used only partially in London, but exclusively in the provinces, where the production of the finest qualities is not even attempted. The use of a mould, when directed with sufficient care and conscientious workmanship, is not so detrimental to the product as to counterbalance its advantages for giving a good finish to a cheap cigar, but in the hands of careless workmen or workwomen it affords a means of producing a good general appearance outside, while the tobacco in the inside may be short and twisted, producing stoppage or unevenness of draught. With cigars made entirely by hand, not even a good appearance and finish can be produced, unless the workman is careful to make the "bunch" well, and to distribute the tobacco evenly and without knots or twist.

Some years ago, in going a round of tobacco manufactories, I visited that of Messrs Bear, of Denmark-street, St George's-in-the-East, and was very much interested in the working of a machine patented by Messrs Bear for performing a very important part in the manufacture of cigars. I thus described it:—

"The chief difficulty in making a cigar being the closing of the small end, Mr. G. Bear directed his attention to this point, and at last came to the conclusion that if the end of the 'bunch'—*i.e.*, the cigar without its outside wrapper—could be perfectly formed by a machine, the outside wrapper would not give much trouble, and that girls, with a little teaching, would be able to do this, as well as professedly 'skilled' men. As far as the writer could judge, the machine is a decided success. It is simple enough, like many other inventions, and consists of a small stand, made of bell metal, about nine inches high and ten inches square, on the top surface of which are six grooves, representing the section of a cigar cut lengthwise. A separate piece of metal, of *half* the length of these grooves, and with corresponding grooves formed in it, is fixed on the end of the upper plate, and thus gives the appearance of a railway tunnel with six entrances, that is, if the entrance of a tunnel was round. Thus, when the 'cap' is fixed, there is formed a double grooving corresponding with half a cigar cut across, and shaped so as to form the end which is to be put in the mouth. Beneath these metal plates a small gas-jet is fixed, which raises the machine to a temperature between 200 and 250 degrees, and renders it ready for use. Its use is still more simple than its construction. A girl of fourteen, or less, can

feed it, and it is impossible for it to get out of order. The feeder is supplied with the 'bunches,' with one end less filled than the other, so as to receive the impression from the machine. Each cigar is thrust in turn into the 'tunnels,' till the six grooves are filled, and then as rapidly taken out again, the whole process being completed in a few seconds. The sudden shock of heat is the secret and success of the machine, whereof one end of the 'bunch' is instantaneously formed into the mouthpiece end of the cigar. One girl can thus form, by the aid of the machine, 1200 'bunches' in an hour. Of these machines, Messrs. Bear have twenty on their establishment, the grooves of which are of different forms, to suit the variety of the cigars required. The average make per day of the firm is 20,000 cigars; and Mr. G. Bear maintains that, by the aid of the machine and the employment of women and girls, instead of men, he saves from 50 to 75 per cent. of the usual cost of labour. Any one who has seen the work going on can hardly doubt this statement; and it seems impossible to escape the conclusion that the whole trade must eventually adopt Mr. Bear's method."

For more than one reason I understand the machine has not been adopted; but I still hold the opinion I formed as to the ingenuity and practical value of the invention.

When the cigars are sufficiently dry and matured for sale, they are packed in boxes and labelled according to their quality, colour, and sizes, after the manner of Havannah cigars, and with the same terms, such as "Flor," "Claro," &c., &c. Many of the boxes also turned out by some makers are marked with Havannah "brands," though the practice, I am glad to hear, has been on the decrease lately. From a certain point of view this custom must be denounced as a fraud, or at least as an attempt at fraud, and certainly it should never have been introduced into the trade. But perhaps, after all, the general public never did nor does suffer from it, as there are few smokers who cannot tell a bundle of British cigars from foreign ones, boxes, labeling, branding, and general "get up" notwithstanding; and any one who has but a smattering of Spanish can at a glance detect many of the sham boxes by the grammatical outrages inflicted on the Spanish language. Of course you may enter a shop and ask for an Havannah and get a Britisher, but no respectable shop would attempt to sell at "foreign" price a box of English-made cigars. As a rule, the price a dealer asks proclaims the nationality of the weed. We may therefore almost conclude that this adoption of Havannah markings, &c., was never intended actually to deceive either retail dealers or the public.

When a very common cigar, branded "Cabanas," was offered at 7/6 per box, nobody took it at its word—no one was deceived into the belief that he was smoking genuine Cabanas at 1½d. each! It was a custom of the trade, which was followed as such, like other bad customs, without any special motive. Even if it might, upon occasions, have aided in a deception on the public, manufacturers generally were not guilty of attempts to defraud. The establishment of an association for the protection of Havannah brands by legal means, which were often rather mercilessly and rigorously applied, at length put a stop to a practice more detrimental to the interests of the British than to those of the foreign trade. The association has become to a certain

extent unnecessary, and even in cases where it might prosecute it does not care to do so. As a rule, the better class of manufacturers of British cigars, though forced out of the groove of their old course by the fear of the law, have now become eager enough to secure their own brands, whether in good English or questionable Spanish, and have long ago realised the benefit which the change in their method has secured for them.

But old traditions are not so readily set aside, and a kind of conservative feeling helps to keep them alive in some modified shape. Thus, what may be called a remnant of an old folly, the heirloom of a bygone time, is still too frequently met with. I mean the prevailing custom, both here and on the Continent, of using the names of *imaginary Spanish manufacturers, with imaginary addresses;* the curious habit of torturing English names and streets into ridiculous Spanish translations, in order to veil their identity from the uninitiated. Of course, if these things please the smoker, no harm is done to anyone; but I do not think that he cares anything about it. Perhaps the general effect is to trumpet the superiority of foreign cigars; to make a tacit confession of the inferiority of those of English make, which, to speak fairly, is, in these times, by no means well founded. It can but perpetuate a prejudice which our manufacturers, in view of the many bad Havannah cigars now imported, have more and more an opportunity to lessen. Another reprehensible way of marking boxes—reprehensible because it apparently indicates a pronounced intention to deceive—is when the general design of an Havannah label and brand is closely copied, with so slight an alteration of the name as to deceive an ordinary observer. Perhaps, however, even in these cases no real harm is done, except to the ingenious English or Continental maker who adopts the bad device. If he substitutes "In*f*inidad" for "In*t*imidad," and copies the general appearance of the latter well-known brand, no one is practically deceived except himself if he thinks by this means to secure any benefit. He might, with better effect, have used an original designation, which does not carry with it the odium of a paltry imitation. Messrs. Morris have been foremost in urging British manufacturers to depend on their own brands, and boldly assert their superiority to many of the Havannah brands.

It has been calculated in round numbers that in the United Kingdom there are about 2000 men, 2000 women and girls, and 2000 boys constantly engaged in making cigars.

Perhaps what I have ventured to say about British cigars may lead some smokers to enquire a little further than they have done into the matter. If they will only take a little trouble they will find some excellent "brands," which are well worth their attention. At the International Exhibition at South Kensington in 1873 there were shown in the food section some British cigars, which the best judges confessed they could hardly distinguish from first-class Havannahs. I have often smoked a British "Sixpenny," and felt I wanted nothing better

tobaccically. I think it very probable that "swells" smoke them in many clubs and first-class hotels and restaurants, and are perfectly satisfied in their ignorant bliss.

May I give one hint to cigar smokers, given to me many years ago by an old and "judgmatic" smoker? It is—to keep the lighted end *upwards* between the fingers during the intervals of drawing. The smoke thus does not continue passing out at the "mouthpiece" and fouling unnecessarily the body of the cigar. This is worth attending to, whether the cigar be "Foreign" or "British."



"A PIPE IN THE WOODS."

CHAPTER III.

Cigarettes.

"Dainty Tubes of Tobacco."
"British Manufacturing Industries" (*Stanford.*)

"A five minutes' flirtation with a Cigarette is just the thing—light, decidedly Attic, and refreshing."

Article in "Globe," 1872.

"This is the most insidious, wicked, and withal charming little smoke I know of."

"How and What to Smoke."

CIGARETTES have hardly been in existence long enough to have inspired poets; as yet *carent vate sacro;* and so I am obliged to head this chapter with only prose quotations. In this country cigarettes are a comparatively modern fashion, and their manufacture here is a still more recent introduction. Before the Crimean War a cigarette was a very rare thing to be seen among us, and it is more than probable that the taste for Turkey tobacco in this form was acquired by our officers in that war, much in the same way as Englishmen in India acquire a taste for Manilla tobacco. Certain it is that, after the war, there was a great demand for cigarettes, and large numbers were imported from Russia and other parts of the Continent. To meet this demand an enterprising Greek, named Theodoridi, set up a manufacture for cigarettes in London in the year 1860. Some persons, however, think there is no more historical or philosophical reason to be given for this fashion of cigarette smoking than for other fashions, some of which are mere caprice, or, as in the case of dress, may be traced to manufacturers and shopkeepers, who well know that a change in fashion wonderfully

stimulates business. But this will not account for the cigarette fashion so very prevalent during the last few years; for manufacturers of, and dealers in, cigars can hardly have been its instigators, as a smoker will now often feel satisfied with the few whiffs of a cigarette, which only costs but a fraction of the value of an ordinary cigar. It is more probable that smokers themselves demanded the cigarette, being taken with the continental custom among "swells;" and further, it is more than probable that motives of economy had had something to do with the matter. Really good foreign cigars have become so dear of late years that even rich men, when craving for a few minutes' smoke, and not having time to get through a cigar, at last felt that they could hardly afford to begin an expensive Havannah, and throw it away before it was half-smoked; nor could they, on the other hand, fall back on inferior cigars. Cigarettes, therefore, made of the best Turkey tobacco, seemed to meet a certain requirement, and consequently, what was perhaps adopted almost as a necessity, became a fashion. The "upper ten" were the leaders in it, several of the "lower tens" followed suit, and though the fashion has not yet reached the still lower strata of smoking society, yet the consumption of cigarettes is now enormous, and daily increasing. And there is much to be said in favour of this new fashion. It is a delicate and dainty method of smoking. A real English "swell" well dressed, as he invariably is, smoking his cigarette, with that quiet imperturbable air which is his chief characteristic, artistically exhaling the smoke from between his lips, or titillating the mucous membrane as he passes it through his aristocratic nostrils, delicately holding the while the fragile instrument of his pleasure between the first and second fingers of his well-gloved hand, is a pleasant picture of a smoker, and might reasonably disarm the prejudices of the members of the Anti-Tobacco Society, and all lady objectors, to the habit of smoking.

So dainty, delicate, and withal harmless a method of indulging in the fumes of the fragrant weed is cigarette smoking, that the only objection to it is the fear lest our English ladies may take to it, as many ladies have done on the Continent. We men are often called selfish and unreasonable by our wives, sisters, aunts, cousins, and the "field-male persuasion" generally (as Mrs. Brown has it), and in this matter we are content to bear the charge, and we still hope that the fair sex will not adopt this fashion of smoking, even though through the exquisite medium of cigarettes. I am quite aware that ladies took to tobacco in the early days of its introduction, or soon after (as mentioned by Hariot, before alluded to); and King James I.,

in his "Counterblaste," alludes to ladies smoking in 1602. When Dekker published his *Satiromastix*, ladies smoked. Asinius Babo, offering his pipe, observes :—

> "'Tis at your service, gallants, and this tobacco too ; 'tis right pudding, I can tell you ; a lady or two took a pipe full or two at my hands, and praised it, 'fore the heavens."

In his *Histriomastix*, 1633, Prynne, well known for his bitter diatribes against stage-plays, tells us that in his time, ladies at the theatre were sometimes "offered the tobacco-pipe" in the way of refreshment ; and Mary King, better known as "Moll Cutpurse," that

> "Bold virago, stout and tall,"

as described by Butler in his *Hudibras*, is depicted on the title-page of Middleton's comedy, *The Roaring Girle*, in the costume of a man smoking tobacco. In the "Tryumph of Tobacco over Sack and Ale" (1640). we read :—

> "Tobacco engages
> *Both* sexes, all ages."

A portrait, painted about 1650, represents a lady with a pipe in her left hand raised to her lips, and in her right a tobacco-box. The daughters of Louis XIV. smoked tobacco, and on one occasion the ladies of the court were discovered celebrating an orgie in their own apartment, and smoking pipes which they had borrowed from the officers of the Swiss Guard ; and Misson, in his *Memoirs of Travels over England*—1697, when Dutch William was on the throne, and every one smoked his pipe in peace—notes "this perpetual use of tobacco," both among men and *women*, especially in country places. Ladies in South America and Spain, as we all know, are still great smokers of cigarettes, and many indulge in them in France, while in Scandinavia, I am told, they smoke freely in their drawing-rooms with the gentlemen after dinner. Irish and Welsh women of the working classes are great smokers, and you may see them by scores in the market gardens about London, with their short clay pipes in their mouths. Among the upper classes, however, in this country, there seem as yet to be few, if any, signs of a revival of ladies' smoking ; and once more, speaking on behalf of "selfish" gentlemen-smokers, we hope there will not be, notwithstanding the temptation offered by cigarettes, and the surreptitious enjoyment of them by the heroines of the late Whyte Melville's novels.

But this is somewhat of a digression from the immediate subject of the chapter, to which I will now return. The fashion, I may almost call it the mania, for cigarettes is now rampant.

The hoardings all over London and its suburbs are covered with huge posters, illustrated with trade-marks or designs attractive through their artistic drawing or grotesqueness; and our daily and weekly papers are full of advertisements, all indicative of the virtues of different kinds of cigarettes. But without wishing to decry any particular "brands" now pressed upon the public, I may venture to say that many of the advertised cigarettes are mere rubbish, or of a very doubtful character. To ensure getting first-class cigarettes, as is the case with other forms of tobacco, you must get those which you know are the actual manufacture of a first-class house. Some very excellent cigarettes are imported from America, Russia, and other parts of Europe, but on patriotic principles I think we should support our own manufacturers.

For the purpose of obtaining information and giving my readers some idea of the cigarette manufacture at a first-class establishment, I felt that I could not do better than visit that of Messrs. John Wood & Son, of 23 and 25 Queen Victoria Street, E.C. This is an old and well-known firm in the cigar and tobacco trade, which was established at the corner of Coleman Street well on to half-a-century ago, where City smokers used to enjoy many a pleasant chat with the respected and genial head of the firm; but recently it has removed to a handsome building in Queen Victoria Street, which (thanks to the City Corporation and the Metropolitan Board of Works) has become one of the most ornamental and most frequented thoroughfares in the Metropolis. Of late years the firm has made itself a great name by the manufacture of first-class cigarettes, enormous numbers of which it sends out to Australia, South Africa, and our Colonies generally, in addition to its home trade. Theodoridi, an enterprising Greek, was the first to manufacture cigarettes in England in the year 1860; but his business was acquired by Messrs. Wood in 1865, who thus may claim to be the first English manufacturers of these estimable little representatives of "sweetness and light."

The tobacco almost invariably used for cigarettes is Turkish. But there is Turkish tobacco *and* Turkish tobacco; some of the commonest kind being worth no more than one shilling per pound in "bond," while the cost price of the best is so high that it is, when cut, retailed in boxes at twenty shillings per pound. It is of tobacco of this character that Messrs Wood's, as, indeed, all first-class cigarettes, are manufactured. This tobacco is known by the name "Dubec" (Dubeque), and comes from Yenidge, a district of Roumelia. An equally good variety also comes from Salonica, near Constantinople. This very high-class tobacco, as sent to this country, is the best selected leaves, and is carefully packed in small bales or "ballots," as they are called, somewhat resembling com-

pressed hay, which weigh about forty pounds each. These are very carefully manipulated at the manufactory, each leaf being taken off separately and very slightly damped, to facilitate the cutting. This operation is an interesting one ; not the least so from the fact that the method used at Messrs Wood's, and I believe at most first-class manufacturer's, must strike a visitor as a somewhat antiquated one in these days of machinery. The instrument employed may be compared to the oldest of old-fashioned hand chaff-cutting machines, which, as my readers are probably aware, consist of a wooden "trough," and a knife, which is worked across its face, cutting, at each stroke, a slice of the material as it is pressed towards the blade, the quantity cut each time falling in a heap in front of the machine. The Turkey tobacco is cut in the same way, by hand. The leaves are carefully packed in the trough, with a board placed over them ; and an enormous pressure is brought to bear upon them by means of a screw (just as apples are pressed in a "cider press.") They then become, as it were, a solid mass, and remain so, more or less, after the pressure is taken off, and the cutter gently pushes them forward with his left hand to meet the knife, which he works with his right. This screw pressure is an improvement effected by Messrs Wood, and saves the cutter, who formerly had to do the pressing with his left leg, much labour. When required for packing in boxes for ordinary smoking, the longitudinal flakes of tobacco, as they fall from the machine, are conducted down a sort of shoot, about six inches broad, and when a length of about two feet has been formed, the cutter dexterously lifts the mass, presses it gently into a flat piece of wood, and, almost quicker than the eye can follow him, turns it over, in perfectly uniform order, ready for packing in the boxes. But when the tobacco is merely required for cigarette making it is allowed to fall from the mouth of the machine in a heap before it, like the chaff from the chaff-cutter. Of course the natural question arises—why is not this work done by a machine, driven by steam, similar to those already described in the chapter on "cut" tobacco ? The simple answer is this : Turkey tobacco, in the opinion of good judges, must be cut *slowly*. If cut quickly by a machine, which, as in the case of cutting other tobaccos, makes two hundred and more strokes per minute, the tobacco would heat, and the delicate flavour of this most delicate of all tobacco would be impaired. To cut it slowly by any existing steam machine would not pay ; and therefore hand labour, I am told, is best and cheapest at present.

The process of making the cigarette is particularly interesting. It looks very easy, but it takes years to become proficient in the art. The maker sits at a table, with his "rice" paper

wrappers, tobacco, and a small pot of adhesive substance handy to him. Almost more quickly than the eye can follow him, he takes the required portion of tobacco, as it were by instinct, in his fingers, lays it on the wrapper, and with a little manipulation —presto !—and the cigarette is formed. Well might the operator remark, as Dr. Lynn used to do a few years ago to his wondering audience at the Egyptian Hall—"And that's how it's done !"—though the spectators were but little the wiser for what they had seen so neatly effected. The makers have two methods, which they follow according to fancy. One may be called the "table" method, the other the "hand" (or "air") method. In the former case the wrapper is laid on a piece of cardboard resting on the table, about the size of the wrapper, and curled into the shape of a semi-circle, on which the maker manipulates the cigarette. In the latter he has the cardboard in his hands, without touching the table, and manipulates the cigarette, as it were, in the air. The "air," or "hand" made cigarettes are considered the best, as they are rolled more uniformly by this method. As they are made one by one the maker drops them into a tray before him, attached to the table, and the girl sitting by his side takes them out one by one, cuts off the projecting tobacco, fixes the cardboard mouthpieces when required, and boxes them. It is curious to observe the action of most of the men in this work. They maintain a kind of oscillating motion of the body from side to side, reminding one of what some readers will recognize as "weaving," in the case of a horse which has adopted this undesirable stable habit. A good hand may make about three thousand cigarettes per day, and earn as much as from three to four pounds per week, while the assistant girls can earn from ten to twenty shillings or more. It is a curious fact, also, that all first-class cigarettes manufactured in London, are made by Russians, and that no woman is employed in the actual rolling of them. All Messrs. Wood's men, over twenty in number, come mostly from Odessa, where all cigarettes are made by hand, and are destined for the Russian "upper ten," though in St Petersburg the aid of machinery is called in. A few years ago there was only one Englishman who could compete with the Russian workmen, of whom Messrs Wood aver that they have never seen one intoxicated since they commenced the cigarette manufacture. The "rice" paper used by Messrs Wood is imported from Paris, the best quality only being obtainable there. I need hardly say it has no "rice" in its composition, its chief feature being the entire absence of "size," in consequence of which absence it is practically tasteless, and when burnt by itself leaves no appreciable ash or residuum. It is received in large sheets, and

reminds one, though it is somewhat thinner, of that highly-valued fabric of which the notes of the Bank of England (the "flimsies") are composed. It is cut into the sizes required by a beautifully accurate machine, which also cuts, when required, the cardboard for the mouthpieces. The boxes, of various forms and sizes, in which the cigarettes are packed, are also made on Messrs Wood's premises by female labour, aided by machinery, in consequence of the great difficulty the firm experienced in getting them made outside. These boxes are most artistically got up, and many of them may be described as "profusely illustrated." One elaborately-finished case particularly strikes a visitor, reminding him of a gigantic French plum-box. It is two feet long by eighteen inches in width, and on its lid is let in a gilt-framed chromograph of a well-known hunting scene, which could be taken out and hung on a wall when the case had done its duty. But its outward embellishments are after all of less importance than its contents, which consist of twelve ornamental boxes of cigarettes of 100 each, the retail price of this whole "lot" being about six guineas—a present many persons would like to receive from admiring friends at Christmas, on New Year's and Valentine's Day, or as an "Easter Egg," and indeed on each and all occasions when presents are the order of the day.

A more commodious and better-arranged manufactory of its kind than that of Messrs Wood, in Southwark-street, I have seldom visited, and it occupies a large space. The ground-floor contains spacious stock-rooms and offices; on the first are the "cutting" machines, each in a "stall" by itself, and one (by the way) for the production of "hand-cut" Virginia; on the second is the "making-room" for cigarettes only; on the third are the box-room, store-room for the tobacco "wrappers" for the "Cigarros" and "Brillantes" and for cigarettes packed in boxes and destined for all parts of the world. On the fourth, girls are at work covering or rather wrapping cigarettes with tobacco leaf, and thus converting them into "Brillantes" or into "cigarros" and "cigarillos" by forming the ends as they wrap the cigarettes into the shape of cigar ends. These "cigarros," or cigar-cigarettes, are packed in boxes of 100 like Havannah cigars, and are most pleasant smoking. And on the fifth floor the box-making goes on. The whole establishment is well ventilated, well lighted, well warmed in winter, and always kept most scrupulously clean.

Looking at Messrs Wood's Trade List, an infinite variety of cigarettes will be found, with nomenclature of a "fancy" character, or indicating their shapes and sizes, or associated with some historical name or trade transaction of the firm. Thus may be noticed the "Stamboul"

and "Sultana," names redolent of Turkey; the "Zetland," made to order of the late Earl of that name; the "Prince of Wales'" with the royal plume in gilt upon each cigarette, made to the order of his present Royal Highness, who highly appreciates Messrs. Wood's productions; while others are associated with the names of our public schools and universities—the "Etons," for instance, and the "Oxfords" and "Cambridges" (this plural does not seem to sound quite right), in light and dark blue boxes, with the acceptable addition of a small wooden mouthpiece in each box. The "Bijous" remind us of the clever device of a glass (opal) mouthpiece, with charcoal inserted. Many cigarettes have mouthpieces of cardboard, but the most recent fashion is against this arrangement. The "Rubies," "Brillantes," and other "cigarros" and "cigarillos" form a kind of class by themselves, being, as I have said, cigarettes wrapped in wrappers of various kinds of tobaccos; and the "Lone Jacks" represent yet another variety of cigarettes, being composed of the best Virginian golden leaf, cut in a somewhat rough form in America, but made up by Messrs. Wood, the name, an American one, being supposed to indicate the appreciation any smoker in a "lone" condition would express for them. The variety of cigarette boxes is endless. Some have mirrors outside or inside the lids, while others are illustrated with photographs of statesmen, actors, and actresses, and "reigning beauties" of Society. The "Magic Ring" boxes are a clever thought, the bottom of them having a cannon or Turk's head depicted with open circular mouth. If the smoker fills the box with smoke from his mouth, and then gently moves the lid of the box the Turk's mouth or the cannon's will send out perfect circles of smoke, such as even the most clever smokers have a difficulty in forming.

Machinery has been introduced in some countries for the manufacture of cigarettes, and it is used exclusively by the French Government, which of course makes all the cigarettes for its children, as it manufactures all other forms of tobacco. A French machine will turn out 15,000 cigarettes per hour, performing the whole from cutting the paper into the required lengths to the turning in of the ends and gumming the edges. A more ingenious machine I have never seen at work, but unfortunately the result of its work is not altogether satisfactory, as a considerable percentage of the cigarettes are so hard and "lumpy" in parts that they will not draw comfortably. Of course English cigarette smokers would not stand this, but our neighbours have only "Hobson's choice" in the matter—the Government cigarettes or none. Among other registered inventions in connection with cigarettes are contrivances for impregnating the wrappers with tobacco juices and

decoctions of the leaf; and, indeed, cigarettes have been entirely made of this tobacconized paper.

Cigarette smoking in France has grown rapidly since 1843, when, I believe, the Government first took up the manufacture of these whiffs. At first they were not taken to very kindly, as during the first few years of their manufacture hardly 4,500 kilogrammes of tobacco were used in it. In 1869 the amount used was about 11,000 kilogrammes, or enough to make some 11,000,000 cigarettes; and the manufacture was confined to one establishment, that at Gros-Caillou. At the present time cigarettes are made at seven manufactories—namely, in Paris, Bordeaux, Marseilles, Morlaix, Nancy, Nantes, and Toulouse; 2,000 workmen are employed in their fabrication, and more than 400,000 kilogrammes of tobacco are used annually. The yearly consumption of cigarettes in France is two hundred and ninety-four milliards; say eight hundred and five millions a-day, thirty-three millions an hour, 559,000 a minute, and 9,323 a second. If placed end to end the cigarettes would reach 514 times round the world. Looking to some statistics of cigarette smoking in the United States, I find that in the year 1880, five hundred millions of cigarettes were known to have been consumed in the States. This year, it is anticipated, owing to the rapidly-increasing consumption, that no fewer than one thousand millions will be used. These are big figures, and take a little thinking out. The cigarettes are not made by hand. If they were, one-half of the population of the States would be engaged in the task of making "whiffs" for the other. The tiny smokes are made, as in France, by machines, capable of making one hundred thousand a-day each. Here is a nice little sum for our young friends of the School Board schools. Supposing each cigarette takes a piece of paper an inch wide, and two and a-half long, how many square yards of cigarette paper will be required in the States this year? Presuming also that three-fifths of an inch of each cigarette is thrown away unconsumed, how many feet of cigarette extended in a straight line ought to be burned? Presuming also—but there, that will do for the present.

In some remarks on the adulteration of tobacco in Chapter I., I referred to the case of a tobacco manufacturer coming off victorious in a prosecution instituted against him for having in his possession tobacco on which he had paid no duty, on his showing that the cigars in question were not made of tobacco at all. They manage things differently in France in the matter of cigarettes; and the French Exchequer not long ago scored a strange victory in one of the tribunals of correctional police. It procured the conviction of an ill-fated dealer in a new sort of cigarettes, and the confiscation of his whole stock-in-trade, valued at more than 25,000 francs. The victim had established a house in Paris for the manufacture and sale

of *mint* cigarettes, and was just beginning to acquire some celebrity amongst the indefatigable smokers of the boulevards when the *régie*, which under the authority of the State administers the tobacco monopoly, came down upon him as an offender against the revenue laws. The defence, of course, was that the cigarettes were made of mint leaves, whereas the tax is imposed upon tobacco. Nor did the most rigid scrutiny disclose an atom of the latter vegetable mixed with the chopped particles of the less famous herb. The tribunal, however, had no difficulty in sentencing the defendant to a fine and the loss of his goods, and the new industry which was beginning to hold up its head seems thus to have been prematurely extinguished. It may perhaps be doubted whether Parisians would have been any less likely to poison themselves with mint than they are with *caporal*. But as a point of law the judgment is decidedly curious. Certain humble traders in small English towns usually write up, or used to write up, over their doors or shop windows a brief statement that they are "licensed to sell tea, coffee, tobacco, snuff, &c.," and it was obvious that there might be great virtues in that little "&c." It seems there is an "&c." of at least equal significance appended to the French tobacco laws, and that an enterprising merchant who chooses openly to sell brown-paper cigarettes or cabbage-leaf cigars may be unmercifully fined by the *régie*, and driven out of the field in disgrace by the worthy dames who sell postage stamps, playing cards, and Government tobacco.

This decision in the matter of the mint cigarettes which were so ruthlessly confiscated, seems to have come at an unlucky moment for the amateurs of eccentric smoking mixtures. It must seriously interfere with the success of a brilliant invention recently made by M. Ramel, the propagator of the famous "Eucalyptus," about which so much has been said and written for a long time past. This gentleman, with the assistance of a scientific friend, has conducted a series of experiments with the leaves of the plant, the result of which was given by one of the Paris papers. The leaves were burnt in a pipe whose tubes passed through several phials of water in such manner as to ensure the precipitation of the chemical elements contained in the smoke. The deposit, consisting partly of an aqueous and alkaline liquid, and partly of drops of a pitchy and oily nature, was then tested carefully with a view to showing how far they were hurtful or harmless to the human system. A strong dose of pitch-like substance was administered to a dog without producing the slightest ill-effect, and the other less suspicious extracts were found to be equally innocuous. Upon this the learned experimentalist himself ventured upon a quiet pipe of "Eucalyptus," and found himself none the worse for it. The influence of the new smoking mixture was rather exciting than sedative; it was, in

fact, not a narcotic but a stimulant, and thus in a measure opposite in its character to the tobacco leaf. Accordingly, M. Ramel proposed to use it as a corrective to the action of the latter plant. It would be a grand triumph for smokers to be able to smoke themselves ill and then smoke themselves well again. But if the *régie* is determined to lay a tax on the "Eucalyptus" cigars and cigarettes it will probably be difficult, at least in France, to bring them very quickly into fashion.

How long the fashion of cigarette smoking is likely to last it would be impossible to conjecture. There seems no abatement of it at present. On the contrary, it seems daily more firmly and extensively establishing itself, both here and abroad. In France and the United States it is decidedly on the increase. In Cuba itself there are many confirmed smokers who only take tobacco in this form; and really for getting the truest and purest flavour of a first-class leaf, of whatever growth it be, there is no form better than that of the cigarette. It shows, I think, great want of taste, and much unreason to speak, as does a certain author before me, of the cigarette as an "effeminate form of smoking material."

Some smokers have taken to making their own cigarettes. But "life is too short" for this fancy, in the opinion of most people. It is all very well to do so, when one finds oneself, as once I did, in a "smoking carriage" in a forlorn condition, with a tobacco pouch and lights, but no pipe. A friendly piece of newspaper may then be made to enclose some tobacco, and the doubly-desiderated smoke may be obtained. Brazilians and other inhabitants of South America can roll and light a cigarette on horseback. The rapidity of manipulation with which a Spaniard first produces tobacco and paper, and next, after a few conjuring movements of the fingers, so swift that you cannot follow them, holds up to your anxious gaze a perfectly-shaped cigarette, is a thing to admire and to remember. Watch, too, an Italian emerging from some theatre between the acts or after the play. As he decends the stairs, chattering with all the volubility of his race, his nimble fingers have detached a leaf from an apparently shapeless little bundle. The other thumb and forefinger have elicited from an invisible pouch a pinch of Turkish or caporal. In another second, with a single twist of the right hand, out comes a straight white roll, soft and round in the middle, flat at the two ends, bound together by some inexplicable principle of spontaneous adhesion. Habit has accustomed him so completely to this art of manipulation that his fingers work at it mechanically, without the aid of eye or thought. Often, in an absent fit, they will provide him automatically with a luxury which his own free will had not thought of exacting from them.

Will the Briton ever learn this accomplishment? I think not. I fear one of our ethnological characteristics is that many of our

fingers are thumbs. It is a painful and almost humiliating sight to watch the Briton attempting to roll his own cigarette. With what a world of clumsy care does he portion out the requisite allowance of tobacco! How tediously does he toil to detach the delicate leaf from its paper book! And then with what an endless fuss does he twist and torture the embryo product! Backwards and forwards between his unskilful fingers it is pushed and twisted and shifted about, while all the time his eyes and his whole body seem to be toiling in sympathy with the laborious operation. Finally, the process is finished: "*Parturiunt montes; nascetur ridiculus mus.*" The long-looked-for work of art emerges—a bloated, ill-shaped mass, more like a badly-stuffed sausage than anything else, either bulging vulgarly, or consumptively attenuated about its middle part, and often gaping with draughty, cold-catching cracks along one or other of its poor sides. No—while good cigarettes can be bought, as they can be, at a moderate price, "the game" of making them oneself is hardly "worth the candle.



CHAPTER IV.

Snuff.

"Blest be his shade, may laurels ever bloom,
And breathing sweets exhale around his tomb,
Whose penetrating nostril taught mankind
First, how by Snuff to rouse the sleeping mind."
Arbuckle. 1719.

"Oh Snuff! our fashionable end and aim!
Strasburg, Rappee, Dutch, Scotch! whate'er thy name;
Powder celestial! quintessence divine!
New joys entrance my soul while thou art mine."
"Shrubs of Parnassus"—*James Boswell.*

"Snuff's my delight! let other youths declare
Their minds to Celia or to Cloe fair;
* * * *
Beauty and all its charms are foolish stuff,
If you compare it with a pinch of Snuff."
"*European Magazine.*" 1807.

"So at times take it, and you will find it fragrant, odoriferous, delicious, and pleasant, recreating and refreshing the head and brain."
"*A Pamphlet.*" 1722.

SNUFF, by its initial letters *sn*, indicates its connection with the nose, as do many other words—*sn*eeze, for instance, *sn*ore, *sn*ooze, *sn*ort, *sn*iff, and *sn*ug, the latter evidently suggesting the idea of the human *sn*out being comfortably covered with the bed clothes like that of a pig with straw. The aborigines of America were found "snuffing" as well as smoking, as we are informed by Roman Pane, the Friar, who accompanied Columbus in his second voyage in 1494. He says that they reduced the herb to powder and "took it through a cane half a cubit long—one end of this they place in the nose, and the other upon the powder, and so draw it up." He adds also, "which purges them very much;" an effect which snuff does not seem to exercise on Europeans.

Within a very short time of the introduction of the tobacco-plant into France by Jean Nicot (alluded to in Chapter 1) it was experimented upon in a powdered state, and the patronage of this new sternutatory by the Queen Catherine de Medicis in 1562 caused its use to become the fashion of the Court party, who called it *Herbe à la Reine*; and it was recommended to her son Charles IX. for his chronic headaches. Snuff, like other forms of tobacco, had bitter opponents from the first, but by the beginning of the 17th century it had established itself in most European countries, and its used was maintained, notwithstanding the anathema of Pope Urban VIII., in 1624. The popularity of snuff increased in this country after the Great Plague, which itself had given a great impetus to the consumption of tobacco; and in the reign of William III. snuffing was the almost universal habit, and to be "curious" in snuffs and snuff-boxes the fashion in the highest quarters.

Snuff-taking, too, came to be recognised as a fine art. The snuff-box was to man what the fan was to women; although it should be said the fair sex were wont to be armed with both implements. In 1711 an advertisement in the *Spectator* notified that at Charles Lillie's, perfumer, at the corner of Beaufort-buildings, would be taught "the exercises of the snuff-box according to the most fashionable airs and motions, with the best plain or perfumed snuff," while for the benefit of the young merchants about the Exchange, attendance would be given for two hours every day, except Saturdays, at a toy shop near Garraway's coffee-house. The "ceremony of the snuff-box" was to be exhibited in opposition to the exercise of the fan, concerning which the *Spectator* had discoursed some time before, with the rules for offering snuff to a stranger, a friend, or a mistress, according to the degree of familiarity or distance, and with explanations of the careless, the scornful, the politic, and the surly pinch, and the gesture appropriate to each. A man of fashion, a "beau" of that period, without his snuff-box would have been as painful an anachronism as a "swell" without his *toothpick* now.

In his chatty and clever little book about smoking, Mr Andrew Steinmetz says that the true artistic method of taking a pinch of snuff consists of twelve operations, as follows:—

1. Take the snuff-box with your right hand.
2. Pass the snuff-box to your left hand.
3. Rap the snuff-box.
4. Open the snuff-box.
5. Present the snuff-box to the company.
6. Receive it after going the round.
7. Gather up the snuff in the box by striking the side with the middle and forefinger.

8. Take a pinch with the right hand.
9. Keep the snuff a moment or two between the fingers before carrying it to the nose.
10. Put the snuff to your nose.
11. Sniff it with precision by both nostrils, and without any grimace.
12. Shut the snuff-box; sneeze, spit, and wipe your nose.

A great impetus was given to snuff-taking in this country by the capture at Port St Mary, near Cadiz, of several barrels of very choice Spanish snuff by Sir George Rooke, in command of the English fleet, in 1702. On returning by Vigo a further capture was made of a large quantity of snuff from the Havannah, destined for the Spanish market. This snuff was sold at our English ports very quickly and thoughtlessly by the officers and sailors of the fleet, who were anxious, as sailors always are, to turn their prize into money as soon as possible; and it is recorded that cartloads were parted with at the rate of 4d. per lb. The name given to it was "Vigo Snuff," and it set the whole nation snuffing more *Vigo*rously than before.

The early snuff-takers carried with them a small grater with which they reduced the tobacco to powder. But as the first snuff-boxes contained no reservoir, it was necessary to consume the powder as soon as it was made. Subsequently an improvement was devised, and a separate place in the box was made for the powder, the implements of manufacture being enclosed in a special compartment. By a further progress in the craft of snuff-taking a sufficient quantity was manufactured to be contained in a separate box, which was carried in the pocket, while the manufactory itself was left at home. Some fifteen years ago certain admirable specimens of these early portable snuff manufactories were exhibited before the Archæological Institute of Great Britain, when the history of snuff and snuff-taking was scientifically discussed.

It appears that ladies took to snuffing, as they did to smoking, in this country at no very great interval after the "lords of the creation." Indeed, "scented" snuffs from the first seem to have been in great favour with ladies. In a pamphlet published in 1710, under the title of *The Travels and Misfortunes of the Enchanted Snuff-box* (which appears to be a satire on Dr. Sacheverel), we read that after dinner "the ladies, all impatient for the first pinch, put in their fingers almost all at once; the gentlemen, with some respect, after." In the era of Queen Anne we read that nature and art combined in making snuff-boxes

> "For females fair, and formal fops to please."

In Cibber's comedy of *The Careless Husband*, Lord Foppington declares—"Lady Betty was put upon the wing, but I caught her

by the snuff-box, and she pretends to stay to see if I will give it her or no." To which a rival lord replies—"Death! 'tis that I gave her, and the only present she would ever receive from me." We learn also how in 1738

> "From agate-box, the newest made,
> Her snuff, Miss Bid, takes in a shell."

And before that, in 1719, from Arbuckle's *Poem on Snuff*, how

> "With snuff the beauteous Celia shades her face,
> And adds a foil to every obvious grace;
> Her lips, o'erspread with dusky Vigo, speak
> The brighter colour on her lovely cheek."

And from *A Satyr against Snuff* in the same year, that—

> "Now, 'tis by every sort
> And sex adored, from Billingsgate to Court."

James Boswell in his *Shrubs of Parnassus* says—

> "By *thee* assisted, ladies kill the day
> And breathe their scandal freely o'er their tea."

A passage, by the way, like the well-known quotation from Pope, which shows us that in former days *tea* was pronounced *tay*. In 1760 the author of the *Toilette des Dames* is very hard on lady snuff-takers in France. "Everything," he says, "in France depends upon *la mode*; and it has pleased the *mode* to patronise this disgusting custom."

Indeed, lady snuff-takers have been special subjects for the satirists. A writer in the *Spectator*, 1712, alludes to it as a custom the fine women had lately fallen into. "This silly trick is attended with such a coquette air in some ladies, and such a sedate, masculine one in others, that I cannot tell which most to complain of; but they are to me equally disagreeable." Mrs. Saunter is described as so impatient of being without snuff that she takes it as often as she does salt at meals, while the pretty creature, her niece, imitates her aunt in the practice, and if less offensive to the eye is quite as much to the ear, "by a nauseous rattle of her nose, when the snuff is delivered, and the fingers make the stops and close on the nostrils." "As to those," the letter writer proceeds, "who take it for no other end but to give themselves occasion for pretty action or to fill up little intervals of discourse, I can bear with them; but then they must not use it when another is speaking, who ought to be heard with too much respect to admit of offering at that time from hand to hand the snuff-box. Yet Flavilla is so far taken with her behaviour in this kind that she pulls out her box (which is indeed full of good Brazil) in the middle of the sermon; and to show she has the audacity of a well-bred woman she offers it to the men as well as the women who sit near her; but since by this time all the

world knows she has a fine hand, I am in hopes she may give herself no further trouble in this matter. On Sunday was seven-night when they came about for the offering; she gave her charity with a very good air, but at the same time asked the churchwarden if he would take a pinch!" And in the same way Steele in the *Tatler* lectures a certain Sagissa who had hidden "a very pretty fellow" in her closet so that he might not be seen by a party of visitors suddenly arrived. But she had presently occasion to seek something in his hiding-place, whereupon the gallant availed himself of the opportunity and snatched a kiss; "but being unused to snuff, some grains from off her upper lip made him sneeze," and thereby betray his presence and at once alarm and inform the lady's visitors. I am told that in America the negresses with teaspoon shovel snuff into their mouths, or rather deposit it between the lower lip, which they hold out for the operation, and the lower gum, and that this deposit, hardening into a sort of cake, lasts them for a long time. This amounts to a kind of chewing; and I am further told that it is practised, with certain modifications, throughout the States.

In the eighteenth century snuff-taking was a universal habit. Marie Antoinette took snuff, probably, but it is reputed that she preferred bon-bons. Queen Charlotte certainly "snuffed," and we know that her unfilial and disrespectful boys called her "Old Snuff." Captain Gronow, as an Eton boy, beheld her Majesty walking with the King upon the terrace at Windsor, "her royal nose covered with snuff both within and without." The great Napoleon carried snuff in his waistcoat pocket, and took prodigious quantities, though he could not endure smoking. George the Fourth carried a box, but only made believe to apply the powder to his nose. He was an impostor even in the matter of snuff-taking. At the regimental mess-tables of the time snuff-boxes were sent round with the decanters after dinner. Mrs. Siddons and Mrs. Jordan, the tragic and the comic muse, were both persistent snuff-takers even on the stage, while employed in the representation of the most important characters. Gentlemen of fashion formed collections of snuff-boxes and "cellars" of snuff—stored in canisters and prized like wine. Lord Petersham was supposed to possess a box for every day in the year. Of a light blue Sèvres box he was wont to say, "Yes, it's a nice one for summer, but would not do for winter wear," after the fashion of Roman gentlemen in the degenerate days of the Empire, who had their summer and their winter rings. His sitting-room was like a tobacconist's shop; jars with names in gilt letters of various kinds of snuff were ranged against the walls with the necessary apparatus for moistening and mixing. "Lord Petersham's Mixture" long remained an esteemed

snuff, and great favour was won by a scented snuff, "Prince's Mixture," so called in favour of the Regent. A snuff known as "No. 45" long signalised the popularity of Mr. Wilkes; "Hardman's No. 37" was the snuff used by Sir Joshua Reynolds, who took it profusely, powdering his waistcoat with it, letting it fall in heaps upon the carpet, and even upon his palette, so that it became mixed with his pigments and transferred to his pictures. Pope and Swift were snuff-takers; and so were Bolingbroke, Congreve, and Addison. Gibbon was also an inveterate snuffer. So was Dr. Johnson, who carried the powder in his waistcoat pocket. Among the Royal noses that snuffed it may be mentioned those of Frederick the Great and our George II. Cowper, the poet, though no smoker, was (like his friend, Mrs Unwin) very fond of snuff; and he has thus immortalised it:—

"The pungent, nose-refreshing weed,
Which whether *pulverised* it gain
A speedy passage to the brain,
Or, whether touched with fire, it rise
In circling eddies to the skies,
Does thought more quicken and refine
Than all the breath of all the Nine."

"Charlie" Napier, R.N., too, was a prodigious snuff-taker, and so before him was Lord Nelson, whose snuff-box is or was among his relics at Greenwich. And lastly may be mentioned the famous Count Moltke, of the Franco-Prussian campaign. The celebrated strategist snuffed tremendously through it, and many attribute the brilliant success he achieved to the extraordinary doses he took.

But the palmy days of snuff-taking are no more. The "Age of Snuffing," like the "Age of Chivalry," has, to a very great extent, "gone." Snuff is no longer recognised "at Court." No longer can it be said of the "swell" of the period (with a slight change of tenses) that—

"'Twixt his finger and his thumb he holds
A pouncet box, which ever and anon
He gives his nose and takes away again."

(Though, by the way, Shakespear's allusion is not to scent made from tobacco). No longer is

"Sir Plume of amber snuff-box justly vain,"

and "swells" who now take snuff take it rather furtively than otherwise.

There may, for aught we know, be a revival of snuff-taking. This is an age of revivals of all kinds, especially of social customs, Dolly Varden costumes, high-heeled boots, "Grecian bends," and

"æsthetic" habiliments generally may be followed by Caroline or Georgian wigs, pig-tails, swords, Hessian boots, knee-breeches, and "clouded" canes; and then the snuff-box would probably resume its once conspicuous place as part of a man's dress.

The practice, however, of snuff-taking has a large number of adherents, who remain faithful to this once popular habit. Compositors in printing establishments throughout the kingdom, and "mill-hands" (especially in the North) and miners take snuff largely, probably because tobacco-smoking cannot be tolerated in their work. Snuffing certainly holds its own in our Union Houses, and among the old ladies therein. There it is still most highly appreciated, and the atmosphere of a Workhouse seems at once to create a taste for snuff among the lady paupers who have never taken it before their retirement from active life. It was very hard of an auditor a short time ago declining to allow a Metropolitan Board of Guardians the item of a few pounds of snuff which had been supplied to the poor inmates of the house. The snuff-takers among the higher classes seem to feel that the practice is not a popular one, and certainly not approved of by ladies, and hence they are, generally speaking, rather shy of producing their pouncet-boxes.

In olden times, as I have said, many takers used to make their snuff for themselves in small hand-mills, or by rasping hard rolls of tobacco; but for a long time past all snuff has been bought at shops, which obtain it from the manufacturer, for it must be remembered that mere ground tobacco is not snuff, the manufacture of which consists mainly in the process of fermentation. In this manufacture the "stems" or "mid-ribs" and "broken" tobacco of various kinds are utilised, and for the finer sorts whole leaves are worked up. The first process is the cutting of the tobacco into lengths, varying from half-an-inch to an inch. These cuttings are then put into large wooden bins, and, being moistened, undergo a process of fermentation, which goes on for many weeks, and even months, the whole mass from time to time being turned over, in order to keep up a uniformity of fermenting heat. This mass is treated as the "stock" or basis for all kinds of snuff. It is then ground or "pulverised" by machinery, either in a moist or dry state, according to the kind of snuff required. The pulverised, or ground mixture, is then sifted, and nothing remains to be done but to blend some, and scent others, according to fancy.

According to the Excise law, nothing may be used in the manufacture of snuff but tobacco and scent essences, or "essential oils," water, and in some cases alkaline salts. Innumerable are the scents which have been used. Spanish snuff was flavoured with

musk, civet, and essence of millefleurs; while essence of cedar, and bergamot, ginger, cummin, mustard, hellebore, spirits of wine, &c., have also been used. The scents used in an ordinary snuff manufactory in this country are bergamot, lemon, otto of roses, musk, lavender, and a few others; but each "house," generally speaking, uses its own specialities.

It is to be noted, however, that there are two great divisions of snuff in the trade, well known to snuff-takers, namely, "Scotch" snuffs and "Rappees," the former being perfectly dry, the latter moist. The Scotch snuff, as it requires in its manufacture the use of iron "mulls" driven at the highest possible speeed, is almost all ground by the snuff millers on the river Wandle, to whom the fermented material, or "snuff-work," as it is called in the trade, is sent by the tobacco manufacturers. It is somewhat curious that the charming stream just mentioned should be famous for two such very diverse productions—snuff and trout! And may I venture to suggest that the saying "up to snuff" may have arisen from the wariness of Wandle trout, which, as all who have cast a fly to them will know, are so difficult to capture? The Rappees are generally produced at the manufacturers' establishments, and nowhere can the process be better seen than at Messrs Sales, Pollard, and Co.'s, of Farringdon Road, E.C. (already alluded to in Chapter II.), which is the oldest snuff manufacturing house now in existence. Here two granite "edge-runners," four feet six inches in diameter, and fifteen inches broad, weighing one and a quarter ton each, grind the rougher material, the weight employed being capable of the most accurate adjustment; the machine in question having been most skilfully contrived for this purpose by one of the firm. After leaving the edge-runners, certain snuffs have to be subjected to other kinds of mills, called "mulls," which act somewhat after the fashion of pestles and mortars, in order that they may be more thoroughly granulated before being sifted for the removal of imperfectly-ground particles.

In snuff making, as in cutting tobacco and cigar making, the manufacturer has to exercise his judgment in "blending" tobaccos, and, therefore, the snuff, in which the most valuable tobacco is used, is the most expensive. As in the nomenclature of cigars, and cut and roll tobacco, "fancy" names are used for the many varieties of snuff by different houses, and snuff-takers, as a rule, are well up in these distinctions, being more particular than smokers in the use of their favourite form of tobacco. It is a curious fact, also, that the use of certain snuffs is confined almost entirely to certain districts, such as "High-toast" to Norfolk, Suffolk, and Leicestershire, while "London Violet," a light coloured "Rappee," which, notwithstanding

its delicate name, is a very pungent article, produced by a process of fermentation known only to one or two other firms, is used very largely, and almost exclusively, by Cornish miners. Among the specialities manufactured by the firm of Sales, Pollard, and Co., is the "S. P." Scotch snuff, originally manufactured when the house was known only as Sales and Pollard, the initial letters of which names were used to give a "brand" to this particular article. This snuff, however, was imitated by other houses before the present law as to trade-marks was in force, and is now sold in large quantities, under the same brand, to the detriment of those who, though they are morally entitled to the exclusive enjoyment of the notoriety obtained by the article in question, have no legal remedy. *Sic vos non vobis S-P-ficatis.* It has been calculated that the quantity of snuff used in this country is about 500 tons per annum.

It is obvious that snuff lends itself to adulteration more readily than any other form of manufactured tobacco, and therefore it is no great matter of wonder to find from official reports that it has been largely adulterated. Taking one out of many reports among my miscellaneous tobacco papers—that of 1871, from the Somerset House Laboratory—it is stated in it that of 26 samples of snuff which were examined, 12 proved to be adulterated, the adulterants being oxide of iron, alumina, glass, coal, pine wood, fustic, straw, and *an excessive amount of sand.* Dr Ure analyzed a sample of snuff which contained pearlashes, to make it pungent and absorbent; and Professor Hunt declares that large quantities of refuse, leaves and roots, such as senna and rhubarb, after their medicinal qualities have been extracted by the druggist, are ground, coloured with burnt sienna or yellow ochre, made pungent with ammonia, and sold to the snuff-makers. And Mr Henry Prescott, in his valuable book on "Strong Drink and Tobacco Smoke," gives a long and painful list of snuff adulterants. The latest improvement in this art of adulteration, detected by the Government analysts, is due to the ingenuity of certain Scotch snuff manufacturers, whose "sneishin" was found to be a mixture of snuff and alkaline salts, liberally coloured with red oxide of iron. But, after all, snuff-takers need not greatly alarm themselves; and if they will only buy snuff made by first-class and well-known firms, they are sure to get a genuine article.

Comparisons have been made between the pleasures of smoking and snuffing. They are certainly both "odorous." To a great extent it is a question of taste; but though personally I do not indulge in snuff, I have an idea that snuff-takers derive as much pleasure from their habit as do smokers, and perhaps even more. Certainly snuffers are as enthusiastic in the praises of their particular form of tobacco as are smokers in theirs. There seems

an extra amount of excitement and exhilaration from the use of snuff, whatever may be its pernicious effects in the long run. Smoking, it has been well said, may, like angling, be "the contemplative man's recreation," but snuffing seems to be the joy of the more mercurial. Hence, perhaps, its popularity in France: one of whose most famous literary men, Molière, has said, "In spite of Aristotle and all philosophy, there's nothing equal to snuff. It is the craving of upright men, and he who lives without snuff is not worthy of life. It not only rejoices and purifies the brains of men, but it also instructs their souls unto righteousness, and by taking snuff we acquire virtue." Certain it is that snuff-takers seem to lose half their wits when kept without their favourite powder; and snuff is often found a valuable counter-irritant to the overworked brain. The following lines "To my Nose" may not be known to all my readers. They cleverly hymn the pleasure of snuff-taking:—

"Knows he that never took a pinch,
Nosey, the pleasure thence which flows?
Knows he the titillating joys
Which my nose knows?

O nose! I am as proud of thee
As any mountain of its snows;
I gaze on thee, and feel the pride
A Roman knows!

One word as to the health of the operatives engaged in the tobacco manufacture. On premises like those of Messrs Sales, Pollard, and Co., where cleanliness is carefully attended to, and there is plenty of light and ventilation, the employés do not seem to suffer any ill effects from inhaling the atmosphere, which must necessarily be pervaded with the fumes, and, to some extent, with the dust of tobacco. On the contrary, the occupation may be put down as a healthy one. Occasionally, a "young man from the country" seems affected at first, but he soon gets acclimatised, and, like a large watch dog once kept at a well-known tobacco manufactory in Aldgate, which delighted in standing with his nose over one of the steaming pans, enjoys the odour in which he works. Even the snuff men, who become as brown from head to foot as a sweep becomes black and a miller white, are evidently in the best of health, and thrive on what may almost be called their native air.

CHAPTER V.

Pipes.

"Pretty Tube of mighty power!
Charmer of an idle hour."

Phillips.

"Sweet smoking Pipe; bright-glowing stove,
Companion still of my retreat,
Thou dost my gloomy thoughts remove,
And purge my brain with pure heat.

The God hath bowls of gem and gold,
(Some plated though—a clear sham),
And so have I!—but then they're made
Of China, Clay, and Meerschaum."

Tom Hood.

"A PIPE!—It is a great comforter, a pleasant soother! Blue devils fly before its honest breath! It ripens the brain, it opens the heart; and the man who smokes, thinks like a sage and acts like a Samaritan."

Bulwer's "NIGHT AND MORNING."

JUST as it is impossible to say for certain when and where tobocco was first smoked, in like manner we cannot determine exactly when and where the first pipes were made. It may be that tobacco was smoked in pipes by the "Heathen Chinee" long before Columbus found it in use in the New World; but certain it is that pipes were made of a great variety of materials, and in a great variety of shapes, by the American Indians long before they became known to the inhabitants of Europe, as the numerous examples exhumed from the old Indian burial-mounds testify. The first form of a pipe was probably a single hollow stem of cane or some other wood, one end of which was inserted in the nose, the tobacco being lighted at the other; and some of these stems were forked, so that both nostrils could be employed. A regular "bowl" was afterwards used, but, curiously enough, without a stem, the mouth being applied to an orifice in the bowl itself. It was, as it were, an afterthought to combine bowl and stem together. Clay of some kind or other was probably the first material used for bowls, but in course of time a variety of other substance, such as wood, glass, ivory, and different hard metals.

It would require a vey long chapter to give anything like a connected history of pipes, tracing the uses of various materials, and their various shapes, sizes, and ornamentations in different periods and countries, and the subject would be a very interesting one, if only from an antiquarian point of view. It hardly, however, comes within the scope of this little *brochure*. Some of my readers may remember that at the International Exhibition at South Kensington in 1873, there was a show of pipes such as had never previously been got together, and probably never will be again. The show itself was a history of pipes, containing as it did specimens of every known kind, from the stone pipes dug from the tumuli of the Aztecs and Mexicans, down to the meerschaums, "briars," and clays of the Victorian era; pipes from North and Central America, tomahawk or war pipes, and "pipes of peace," among which was to be seen that of Strong Bow, the chief of the Seneca Indians, with its feathers and pendant beads; Irish, Scotch and English pipes, including the wonderfully-contorted and involved implements of the reigns of James II. and William and Mary; Icelandic, Norwegian, Prussian, Austrian, Swiss, Italian, Dutch, Spanish, and French pipes; Egyptian, grand Turkish, and still grander Persian apparatus, and yet grander still from Hindostan; while China and Japan contributed innumerable specimens of their wondrous handicraft. Pipes there were of gold and silver, and pipes ornamented with almost every conceivable substance—crystal, ivory, shagreen, tortoiseshell, jade, soapstone, jasper, lacquer, pearl, and enamel; while one grand meerschaum represented, in elaborately-carved work, the marriage of the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne. The far greater part of this marvellous omnium-gatherum of pipes was from the unique collection of Mr W. Bragge of Sheffield, who has spent a lifetime and a fortune in forming a "pipological" museum, which has no rival in the world.

Here, by the way, I may recall to memory the famous Dutchman, Mynheer Van Klaes, who died about ten years ago, and was the possessor of almost as famous a collection of pipes and smoking paraphernalia generally as that of Mr Bragge. Rivalling his notable countryman, Van Dunk, in deathless thirst, Van Klaes far exceeded him and everybody else in devotion to tobacco. From Jean Nicot, the Medicean Catherine's Ambassador, down to the Claimant, there never was such a devotee of the fragrant weed, and even in Holland, where everybody goes about like a walking chimney, this eternal-fumigant linen-merchant was known as "King of the Smokers." In the stately mansion which Van Klaes had built for himself, out of the profit of his business, one handsome apartment was dedicated to what might be called a Nicotian Museum. Tobaccos of every kind grown on the surface of the earth were ranged there in leaf, cake, twist, and cut; cigars, cigarettes, and cigarillos of every brand were scientifically displayed; but the great feature of the collection was seen in Mynheer's pipes. From the clumsy bowl and thick stem of Sir Walter Raleigh's short clay, down through all known varieties of fashion and manu-

facture—wooden, porcelain, metallic—to the modern meerschaum and the "briar" root, Van Klaes had made his museum quite complete. He had the black earthen pipe of Nubia, the pipe of horn puffed by the Caffre, the Chinaman's tiny bowls of brass for deadly opium, the Red Indian's tomahawk pipe, and the superb machine-like hookahs of India. Narghilehs and jasmine sticks from Egypt—dainty carved sea-foam of Trebizond—Irish dudeens, black as the raven's wings, whose odour was vertigo to a non-smoker—Broseleys a yard long, and straw pipes from Leyden of twice that length—"churchwardens" from British kilns, and "heir-loom" clays which generations of Dutchmen had puffed down from the age of William the Silent—Van Klaes had them all. There would he sit amid his favourite trophies, blowing eternal clouds, like a smoky Jove—or rather a sort of harmless human Vesuvius, for ever erupting fumes—except when he took his Dutch pipe out of his mouth to pour into the dry crater of his volcanic frame some of Mynheer Van Dunk's favourite beverage, or a *choppe* or two of Dordrecht beer. Thus, "moistening his clay," the portly Dutchman spent placid years, growing so aged that it seemed as if Fate had lost sight of him in the blue clouds perpetually gathered about his bald old pate. But, never being in a hurry about anything, it was not likely Van Klaes would put himself out to die precipitately: he went on smoking and living, living and smoking, till at last Death, giving a loud sneeze, touched him with the fatal dart-point, and his smoky spirit exhaled in one last volume of Canaster.

A short time, however, before his demise, Mynheer summoned a lawyer and took steps to be buried as became his life and character. With many a thunder-storm puff, and many a fresh recourse to the bottle of Schiedam, he directed the orderly method of his own obsequies. First of all, his coffin, of whatever wood composed, was to be lined with the tops, bottoms, and sides of the old Havannah cigar-boxes from which he had puffed away so many *puros*. Then Mynheer was very particular in directing that a packet of French caporal, and a bladder of the finest dry-cut Dutch golden leaf should be placed at his feet, while his favourite old pipe with the china bowl was to be laid by his side. It might be thought that these instructions were inspired by nothing more than the wish to have old companions in life near at hand in death. But, no! Van Klaes had a theology of his own; he never could get along in this life without smoking, and he seems to have been fully persudaded that when good Dutchmen die they will be mercifully allowed to smoke in the celestial *lust-haus* of Heaven. Yet, like other eccentric believers, he had his tantalising and uneasy doubts. He was not quite certain whether fire, which belongs, as we are taught, to the lower, rather than the upper, regions, would be provided for the elect—at all events, he judged it possible that, among the uncertain transformations of the future state, his favourite luxury might be neglected, and there might be some delay for honest Hollanders in getting a light. So Mynheer further insisted that a box of matches should be placed by his side; and, in case the end of the world should

be defered till these grew damp, as was likely enough, he ordered a flint and steel, with tinder, to be added. All his personal anxieties being thus appeased, he next directed that the smokers of the vicinity should be invited to his funeral—that each should be then and there presented with ten pounds of good tobacco, and two pipes painted or stamped with his name, arms, and the date of his demise. Most particularly he requested that friends, relatives, and guests would be careful to keep their pipes well alight during the funeral service—so that when the "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust," was reached, the mourners should simultaneously shake out the embers from every glowing bowl upon the coffin-lid. The poor of the neighbourhood who attended to these requests, were to receive on each anniversary of his decease ten pounds of tobacco and a firkin of good ale. These provisions made *secundum leges*, he filled his ultimate pipe, drew a good big puff, and then his last breath, dying as he had lived, if not exactly in the odour of sanctity, certainly in that of excellent tobacco, and at peace with all the world.

This is but a sad picture, I fear, for those who, like a certain Very Rev. Dean, regard the Nicotian herb as a "gorging fiend," and ascribe to its use the most terrible moral and physical results. And what is especially awkward for their theory is that Mynheer Van Klaes lived to the age of eighty-one; so that if tobbaco killed him, it was a remarkably long while in accomplishing that mournful consummation. Perhaps the worthy Dutchman carried his devotion to the fragrant leaf somewhat beyond the limits of moderation; and when we hear that the lamented Hollander consumed during his earthly career as much as four tons of tobacco, which he had "wetted" with no less than 500,000 quarts of ale, to say nothing of schnapps, Schiedam, and other beverages, it realy appears that he might have been content at the last to give up smoking and the world together. Still, those who use the soothing leaf in moderation, and with a just sense of its calm and philosophic merits when not abused, will think of the enthusiast of Rotterdam with a certain tenderness. It is plain that he wished to make himself, alive and dead, an answer to the "Counter-blast" and all other intemperate denunciations of the "Indian weed." Grateful to the point of extravagance for that gentle gift of Nature which was surely revealed to make men more patient with existence, he desired that his death as well as his life might illustrate this thankfulness. Other men build almshouses, schools, and hospitals, with their legacies. Van Klaes felt that he could sleep best if the poor man's pipe was lighted by his means, and if friends took a parting puff—fit image of our fleeting existence—over his remains. Peace to his ashes, in which the fire of existence burned so steadily down! Death, the tobacco-stopper alike of high and low, useful and useless careers, has put him out, and the King of Smokers will smoke no more. It would be easy to say unkind things of such a Dutchman, to count how much money he puffed away—how many golden hours he burned to waste. But a Hollander can work while he smokes, and Mynheer, in spite of

his perennial pipe, evidently managed to make a fortune. Peace, then, again, to his ashes, now for ever knocked out. The Dutch Exchequer misses him in its Budget, and when the Anti-Tobacco League says again that tobacco is poison, the incredulous finger will be not unnaturally pointed to the tomb where Mynheer Van Klaes sleeps so blandly, side by side with his well-beloved pipe.

The largest pipe in the world belongs to her Britannic Majesty, and is called the "Queen's Pipe." It is a large furnace, in which are consumed the sweepings of the Government Tobacco Warehouse, down in "Dock-land," damaged tobacco, on which the brokers object to pay duty, and impounded smuggled tobacco.

But this perhaps is somewhat of a digression, and I must now pass on from "Pipology" in general to say a few words about the pipes which are chiefly in use among ourselves at the present day. These are made of meerschaum, wood, and clay. A pretty assortment of all kinds can be seen in any good tobacconist's window; but to get a fair idea of the almost infinite variety made, you should pay a visit, if you can obtain an introduction, to some first-class manufacturer and importer, and inspect for yourself his stock-in-trade and his factory. Such an introduction I obtained a little time ago to Messrs ADOLPH FRANKAU and Co., of 121 Queen Victoria-street, and I spent several pleasant hours in viewing their superb stock of pipes, and hearing and seeing a great deal about their manufacture. This firm was established as long ago as 1848, and was among the first to make the British public familiar with meerschaum pipes of the best quality, and they are now one of the largest firms in London which supply "the trade," home and colonial, with these and "briars," while they certainly stand at the head of the trade in supplying what are called tobacconists' "Sundries" or "Varieties." No. 121 Queen Victoria-street is one of those palatial houses of business which make that thoroughfare one of the wonders of modern London, and the order and regularity which pervade the whole establishment were not the least interesting features I noticed on the occasion of my visit. The ground and first flooring I but hastily glanced through, as they are devoted to articles other than those I came specially to see; but I was much struck with the enormous stock and infinite variety of leather and fancy goods, such as bags, purses, writing, dressing, and tourist cases, fans, albums, &c.; glass goods, such as vases, flower tubes, inkstands, &c.; cabinet goods, such as desks, workboxes, stationery cases, &c.; and brass and gilt goods, such as candlesticks, thermometers, watch stands, letter racks, &c. I could not resist handling some of these articles, and was much surprised at the low prices at which they can be sold to the trade, considering the excellence of material and workmanship: and I noticed that the best articles, where possible, bore the trade mark of the letters "A F C" on a hexagonal figure divided into six equilateral triangles. The enormous trade a firm like that of Messrs Frankau must do is simply astounding.

But my business being in the upper regions, I made my way thither, and on the second floor found myself surrounded with every imaginable article included in the smoker's paraphernalia. In fact, I was in the grand show-room for what are called in the trade tobacconists' sundries. Here were cases of pipes of all description, and in large numbers, wooden pipes, mounted and unmounted, known by the generic name of "briars," meerschaums of all shapes and sizes, Hookahs, and pipe stems innumerable, amber mouthpieces and holders, cigar and fusee cases, tobacco jars, pipe racks, cigar cabinets in all kinds of wood, tobacco and snuff boxes, ash trays, matchboxes, pipe brushes, pouches (among which I noticed the excellent patent of A. Oldroyd, of Stratford), tobacco cutters, and I know not what else; but I could not help wishing that it was in my power to make a selection out of these splendid pipes and smoker's paraphernalia wherewith to commence a Nicotian Museum, after the manner of Mr Bragge, or the famous Dutchman above mentioned.

But I was still more interested higher up in the establishment, namely in the factory, where I saw many of the details of the work carried out, the general result of which I had seen in the show-room. I found Messrs. Frankau's skilled workmen busily employed in their various departments—some shaping and carving meerschaum, some turning the "briars" and fitting in the mouthpieces, some elaborating the silver tubes for mountings (for which no less than nine silversmiths are employed), some making amber mouthpieces, and some engaged in pipe-case making, which latter work in some instances requires very skilled hands to turn out properly. All I saw in the factory convinced me that the object of the firm is to secure in all departments the best work they can.

And now, in the hope that it will interest many of my readers, I will proceed to give some details as to the manufacture of Meerschaum, Wooden, and Clay Pipes.

Meerschaum. Before describing the process of its manufacture into pipes, some facts, perhaps not very widely known in connection with meerschaum itself, may be interesting. Meerschaum is a white mineral of a somewhat earthy appearance, always soft but dry to the touch, and adhering to the tongue. It consists of magnesia, silica, and water, and may be called a hydrated silicate of magnesia. Silicate of iron and alumina are often found with meerschaum, and affect its colour, giving it a tinge varying from the palest yellow to a deep brown, and thus depreciate it in value, the purest white being most in request by the manufacturer. But even pure meerschaum varies much in quality, as is shown by the differences of its specific gravity, some kinds sinking in water, others floating on the surface. In the estimation of the pipe makers that of medium density is the most highly valued. Meerschaum is met with in various localities—in Italy, for instance, Spain, and the Crimea; but it is from Asia Minor (Eskishir and the peninsula of Natolia, in particular) that the chief supply is derived. It is dug from marl pits, sometimes at a depth of from eight to ten

fathoms; and it is occasionally obtained among rocks of serpentine. When first dug up it is soft and will form a lather like soap, on which account, and from the fact that it will absorb grease, it is used by the Tartars in washing their linen. The size of the lumps in which meerschaum is found vary from that of an ordinary quartern loaf to that of a pigeon's egg, the largest angular and irregular blocks of good quality being worth upwards of twenty pounds, The origin of the term "meershaum" is somewhat obscure; it need hardly be said that "the foam of the sea" (*meer schaum*) has no part in the composition of the substance; but it is possible that this appellation was given to it from the fact, as already stated, that the lighter kind will float on water, though more probably the word is a corruption of the Tartaric name *myrsen.*

The manufacture of the lumps of meerschaum into pipes is carried out as follows:—A rough block of meerschaum is taken and, with a fine saw, cut up into portions, according to the shape of card-board patterns traced on it, the greatest care being used to utilize the block to the best advantage. The pieces are then soaked in water, and afterwards formed roughly into the form of pipes with knives of different shapes. They are then put on lathes and the holes drilled, after which they are put into an oven to dry. The amber mouthpieces are next fixed, and the pipes smoothed with glass paper and "Dutch rush," which acts as a file of extreme fineness. The next process is their immersion in fat almost at boiling point, after which they are hand-polished with rags and a fine powder called, I believe, in the trade, "tripoli," of which burnt bones is one of the constituents. But this is not all: they are further subjected to a bath of hot wax, after which they are rubbed gently with rags till cold, and then again polished with powdered chalk. The time they are in the wax varies from five minutes to one hour, according to the density of the meerschaum, and it is this wax which causes the juice of the tobacco to fix itself externally after passing through the pores of the meerschaum. The transformation, therefore, of a rough lump of meerschaum into a perfectly formed and polished pipe is a long one, requiring much skill and patience. The Germans, as is generally known, have this manufacture of pipes almost entirely in their own hands, Vienna being the head-quarters of this industry. As in a first-class cigarette manufactory in England few but Russians are employed, in like manner in the meerschaum-pipe manufactory among us the hands are almost entirely German or French, though some English lads are now being initiated into the work. One word as to *sham* meerschaums, which we may call "mere-shams": these are made of the shavings and scrapings of the genuine material, worked up into blocks with plaster of Paris and similar substances, and so cleverly is the fabrication conducted, that it requires a good judge to tell a real from a well-made sham meerschaum. The best protection for the public is to have resort only to a first-class establishment, where purchasers may rely on getting the genuine article; and I can confidently say that such an establishment as that of Messrs Frankau & Co., whose "guaranteed" meer-

schaums, of all shapes and sizes, in cases stamped with the trade mark  are the very perfection of quality and manufacture.

It may also be interesting to add a few words in reference to amber, which is almost invariably used for the mouthpieces of meerchaum pipes, whether they have stems of other material or not. It is still a matter of doubt whether amber is the semi-petrified resin of certain *coniferæ*, an opinion expressed by Tacitus, in his "Germania," or some kind of wax or fat which has undergone a similar process: but certain it is that at some time or other amber must have been in a liquid state, for numerous small insects, generally of the *arachnidæ* family, are found in it, as well as particles of vegetation. It is to this that Pope humorously alludes in his "*Epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot*"—

> "Pretty! in amber to observe the forms
> Of hairs, or straws, or dirt, or grubs, or worms.
> The things we know are neither rich nor rare,
> But wonder how the devil they got there."

It was a pretty idea that amber was a concretion of bird's tears, to which Tom Moore alludes in his "*Fire Worshippers*"—

> "Around thee shall glisten the loveliest amber
> That ever the sorrowing sea-bird hath wept."

Amber comes almost entirely from the Baltic. Some is washed up on the coasts, but the greater part is obtained by dredging, an industry pursued all the year round, or by digging in pits on the sea shore. For this purpose a great part of the Baltic shores is farmed out by the Prussian Government. The light "clouded" amber is the most scarce, and hence the dearest in the market; but fashion as to colour has somewhat to do with prices. It is said that Italy demands "bright," or clear amber; Russia, "white clouded;" Turkey, "lemon clouded;" England, generally "white clouded;" while France calls for "green clouded," a colour which "comes out" more particularly from the action of smoke. The size of the pieces, as found, varies from that of a pea to that of a very large kidney potato, lumps of the latter size being worth, if without flaws, from three to ten pounds each. I have often wondered why amber ornaments, in the way of necklaces, brooches, and bracelets are not more generally worn in this country; but perhaps the reason may be that of late years "blondes" have been in fashion; and amber, it need hardly be said, does not suit blondes. As has been mentioned, Italy demands "bright" amber, a fact probably to be accounted for because there brunettes are common, if not fashionable. But this is a question for ladies to decide. I saw a very fine assortment of blocks of amber at Messrs Frankau's, and the process of shaping it into mouthpieces; but what most interested me was the bending of these mouthpieces into various curves. The bender having first slightly greased the amber, holds the ends in each hand and moving it gently some little distance above the flame of a spirit lamp, roasts it more gradually than even a hare should be roasted. If no draught reaches it, about four minutes suffice to render it soft enough to bend. The bending

done easily with the fingers, and the amber removed from the flame cools almost instantly and retains the shape given to it. The process seems easy enough, but an inexperienced hand is sure to bungle it. Like sham meerschaum, there is sham amber, which is made from powdered chips, and moulded into the required forms. It is very difficult to distinguish it from real amber, and is a very passable material.

Wooden Pipes. Meerschaums have to some extent gone out of fashion the last few years, and wooden pipes, more or less elaborately mounted, are now most in favour, for in pipes, as in almosts all things human, there is a fashion, and I suppose this is set in this matter by manufacturers, just as it is in our habiliments, a change being good for trade. The great majority of wooden pipes are made of "briar," or at least they are called by that name; and I may at once say that the "briar" has no more connection with rose "briars" than "dog" roses have with the canine animal whose name they bear. The word is only a corruption or the French *bruyère* which signifies a "heath." It is of this French wood that the pipes are made, and it is used for the simple reason that it is almost the only wood that does not char when subjected to fire, and is practically incombustible. It is sent to this country in roughly-prepared shapes and sizes, and subjected to the lathe and a variety of hand labour, somewhat similar to that employed in shaping and polishing meerschaum. There are two other woods now much used for making inferior pipes, viz., "Miall" and "Cocus" woods. The former is from Australia and is known also by the name of Violet wood because when subjected to the saw or rasp it emits a strong and distinct odour of violets. Though perhaps a little more liable to burn than "briar" wood, it answers admirably for pipes, being absorbent and most pleasant to smoke through. It is dark brown in colour, and inclined to be mottled. There has been a great fashion for Miall pipes the last three or four years. "Cocus" is also a dark wood, very hard indeed, and not liable to split with heat. Hence it is used especially for making small pipes with very delicate stems. Pipes some years ago used to be made of Black Bog Wood, but it has now been given up on account of liability to burn and crack, and the black pipes we now see are mostly stained "briars" and called "ebonized briars." Pipes are made of several other woods, maple and juniper for instance, but only those of cherry wood are to be commended. The various wooden pipes I saw in course of manufacture at Messrs Frankau's are fitted with amber, ivory, horn, or vulcanite mouthpieces, and are variously mounted with silver or German silver. Vulcanite, I may mention by the way, is a comparatively new substance, the chief constituent of which is indiarubber with some slight alloy. It is now largely used in the place of jet and manufacture of many fancy articles, and, being an expensive material, is generally employed on the best silver-mounted pipes.

The number of wooden pipes generally in stock at Messrs Frankau's is close upon 30,000 dozen, and of meerschaums 17,000 "pieces," while the annual sale of each amounts to about four times those figures, which gives one some idea of the business done in a big pipe house.

Messrs. Frankau have also brought out from time to time several most ingenious patent pipes, constructed for the purpose of intercepting the moisture which forms inside the stem. For instance, there is the "Anglo-Saxon" pipe, in which the chief feature is a kind of well beneath the bowl which unscrews from the well; the "Agatha," in which the wooden bowl is lined with clay, and provided with an absorbent clay plug beneath it; the "Lanole," the advantage of which is that for the purpose of cleaning it may be taken to pieces without any part being detached; the "Victoria" which has a perforated ivory cap at the end of the stem, fitting into the wooden bowl; the "Trichinopoly," a wooden pipe with meerschaum plug, and with a straw forming an inner tube, enabling the smoker always to have a clean pipe without the trouble of cleaning it, as the straw, which is of no value, can be replaced as often as desired; and the "Zulu" pipe, which has its bowl fixed on the side of a bent stem, a reservoir below it which unscrews, and an inner tube which can be drawn out when the mouthpiece is removed, so that it is very easily kept clean. These with various others ingeniously arranged were a very interesting study, though some of them have to a great extent "gone out," fashion as I have already said largely influencing from time to time the pipes men wear. The patent pipe now most in vogue seems to be the "Tindell:" and a very good pipe it is. Its feature is a trough attached to the mouthpiece and inserted in the stem of the pipe where it receives all noxious deposit, which can be removed by withdrawing the trough, without the troublesome and ineffective use of brushes; then the pipe can always be kept in a perfectly clean state and with a free draught, the trough being so constructed that nothing but smoke can pass into the mouth of the smoker. In my opinion, however, the "Carlton" pipe is the best Messrs Frankau have yet produced. It is made of different materials and of different lengths, and its chief feature is that the bowl and the mouthpiece can be detached or joined again with half a turn of the hand, connection and disconnection being thus instantaneously effected, while the joint is perfectly firm, air-tight, and incorrosive. The old-fashioned troublesome screw is thus abolished, and the "Carlton" makes the handiest pipe I have ever seen for carrying in a square or round case in the pocket. The wooden pipe trade with the Cape is a very extensive one, and all the pipes sent there by Messrs Frankau have to be fitted with perforated caps, because I suppose the Boers, and indeed a large proportion of the smokers in South Africa, spend a great part of their lives on horseback, and like caps to their pipes to keep the ashes and fire from blowing about. The Aborigines have a further fancy and require their pipes to be tin-lined for the simple reason that they cannot bring themselves to believe that wood when brought into contact with fire will not burn.

But I must now draw my remarks on meerschaum and wooden pipes to a close, and as a caution to smokers I would recommend always to buy pipes with a good "brand" marked on them. Thousands of wooden pipes are sold in the shops which look all very well to the

eye, but are often cracked or have holes in them, which are carefully filled up with coloured putty or some similar substance. A good wooden pipe must, for comfortable smoking, have a wide bore, to be durable must be highly finished and of the best material, and to be free from liability to burn must be highly polished inside. Messrs. Frankau's pipes have all these qualities, and one should be careful to look for the trade-mark 

on their best pipes as on all other superior articles produced by the firm which pertain to smokers.

But here I must bring to a close the account of my visit to Messrs Frankau's establishment, and of what I heard and saw there; and I must at the same time remind my readers that this is only a wholesale house, to which buyers of separate articles must not consider themselves invited by anything that I have said.

I will conclude this chapter with a short notice of CLAY PIPES, which must not be despised because they are not so much in vogue among smokers just now as meerschaums or wooden pipes. In my early smoking days it was a great fashion to smoke "Milo" clays, and colour them. A lad who could colour one deeply and regularly was a hero among his fellows, and grown men were pleased to display a good Milo. Perhaps the fashion will come in again. A short clay pipe when first its newness is worn off is very sweet smoking.

Clay pipes were made in this country directly tobacco was introduced, and England may be considered their special home, though silver pipes were also used from the first, as also pipes made of walnut shells, with straws for stems. That clay pipe making was established at an early period and became an important manufactory may be gathered from the fact that the craft of Tobacco-pipe Makers was incorporated in 1619, the 17th year of King James. This incorporation was confirmed by Charles I., and again by Charles II. The thick-stemmed and small-bowled clay pipes, and the Irish "Fairy" pipes, so frequently found during excavations, and when dredging the beds of rivers, are of the early period of smoking in this country, and from then till now clay pipes have been made in England of every conceivable form and size. Of these there were numerous examples in the Pipe Section of the Exhibition of 1873, already alluded to, where also was exhibited by Mr W. T. BLAKE, of 175 City Road, E.C., the process of making one particular kind of clay pipe, called the Irish "cutty."

It was this circumstance which led me to visit Mr Blake's establishment at Wilson's Yard, Islington, with a view of giving a description of the process of clay-pipe manufacturing, Mr Blake being one of the leading manufacturers in this particular line. The manufacture of all English clay pipes is substantially the same, whether they be ordinary "churchwardens," "London straws," the long and ponderous "Broseleys" (veritable "yards of clay"), the short "cutties," or the "fancy" clays. The best, and indeed the only clay available for the manufacture of a good white clay pipe, comes from the neighbourhood of Newton Abbot and Kingsteignton, in Devonshire. It is sent to London and elsewhere;

and indeed to every part of the world where it is wanted, in rough lumps, about the size of quartern loaves, weighing about twenty-eight pounds each. The lumps, when brought to the manufactory, are first placed round a kiln, for though there is water in the clay, it will not take additional water till first dried. After being dried and any outside dirt scraped off, the lumps are moistened with water, and worked up with a spade and beaten with an iron bar for about an hour, till the mass is about the consistency of dough or putty. It is then divided into masses of about eighty or ninety pounds each, which is the portion assigned to one of the makers, who breaks off pieces of the required size, and after roughly fashioning them with his hands into shapes like that of Manilla cheroots, gives them, by means of flat boards attached to the palm of each hand, a more perfect form. These "rolls" are then laid out in grosses on a board for about ten hours in order to assume more consistency. The next process is the moulding. The "roll" of clay is taken by the moulder in his left hand, while with his right he passes the wire up it to form the "vent." He then places it in the metal mould, which is made in two halves capable of being tightened together with a screw, while a handle forces the "stopper" into the large end of the roll, which is to form the bowl of the pipe. In this process of moulding a slight quantity of oil is used to prevent the clay sticking to the mould or "stopper." The moulds are of different shapes, according to the pipe required, plain or carved, stamped or unstamped.

The pipes thus formed are placed on trays or racks, and undergo another ten hours' partial drying, so that they may just bear handling for "trimming," an operation performed by women, who again pass a wire up the "vents," and with a curved metal tool, called a "burnisher," trim off the seams and edges formed by the double construction of the moulds. The pipes are also at this stage of their manufacture stamped with Mr Blake's name, or that of any of his customers who so require it. Then comes another drying on racks for a day or so, according to the season or the degree of supplied heat, till they become what is called "chalk white." The next process is the "baking," in order to harden them. For this they are packed in coarse eathenware utensils, called "saggers," as in the pottery districts, made of fire-clay on the premises, each "sagger" containing from one to three gross of pipes. The "saggers" are then packed one on another in the kiln, with a rim of fire-clay between each to keep the flames out. The fire-clay, by the way, is of a peculiar manufacture, and has been found so admirably adapted for "backing" ordinary fire-grates, that Mr Blake deals largely in this article. The kiln, very ingeniously constructed with flues on the downward draft principle, holds about 170 "saggers" at one time. A fire on each side supplies the heat, and the door is bricked up and stooped with fire-clay on each occasion. Seven or eight hours is the time allowed for the baking, and twelve to fourteen hours for the kiln to cool, when the pipes are taken out, their manufacture being then completed as far as the formation and hardening of the pipes goes.

To give some idea of the trade in merely "fancy" clay pipes, it may be mentioned that there are nearly 200 varieties on Mr Blake's Trade List, and that about 60,000 pipes are turned out weekly at his manufactory. These "fancy" pipes are sometimes made plain, but also in almost every conceivable shape and design, from the highly classical down to the absurdly grotesque; the amount of ingenuity expended on them being perfectly wonderful. It really seems that no little of the artistic skill so widely diffused throughout the country of late years by the art schools has been expended on designing pipes. Among the specialities in Mr Blake's trade are the pipes manufactured for smoking contests. These contests are instituted by tobacconists in London and the large provincial centres of population, who offer prizes for the best coloured pipes. An advertisement of one of these strange contests recently fell into my hands. It was the announcement of one of M'Govern's "Cloudy Battles." Mr M'Govern, being a large tobacconist at 5 Brunswick Road, and 36 Berry Street, Liverpool, intimated that he had laid in a stock of thirty thousand pipes, of Mr Blake's make, which would be issued at twopence each, and so enable him to give away no less than seventy pounds in prizes, chiefly in the form of meerschaums, the first prize being one of the value of twenty-five pounds for the best coloured clay. There was also a valuable prize offered for the worst coloured one, thus showing that the art of "how not to do it" may sometimes meet with its reward. The pipes for these smoking contests are thus prepared. After they are made and baked in the manner above described, the outer surface is carefully removed, and then the operator, using a fine camel's hair brush, gives them a covering of a preparation called "Meerschaum Wash." When the glazing is completed the pipe has much the appearance of a real meerschaum. The preparation used is tasteless and quite innocuous. These pipes when fitted with an india-rubber tip are most pleasant smoking, and from the perfect manner in which they colour many prefer them to actual meerschaums. Among other fancy pipes and cases I noticed at Mr Blake's was the "Companion Case," containing two pipes—cutty clays—the one white and the other red (terra-cotta), a pretty brace of smoking "engines," with an amber mouthpiece to screw into each. The "Companion" is about 2½ inches square, and thus is as handy as it is pretty.

There is another branch of Mr. Blake's trade which would astonish those who are not to some extent aware of the enormous demand for our English clays throughtout the world, the most civilized nations and the most barbarous tribes being large purchasers. The principal markets are Australia, New Zealand, the West Indies, Canada, the East and West Coasts of Africa, and South America. The pipes for some of these markets are generally tipped with wax, a bright red being used for those destined for the West Coast of Africa. The boxes also in which these latter are packed are painted bright red, a colour, it seems, highly appreciated by our friends the Fantees, Ashantees, and other coloured barbarians.

Mr Blake's "Shipper's List" of the infinite variety of pipes gives some idea of the immense trade in these articles; but the list of the "Exhibition Colouring Clays" is most interesting to home smokers. These latter can be stamped with the crests, monograms, or initials of purchasers, as was done at Mr Blake's stand at the Exhibition of 1871 and 1873.

The "earthen pipe so lily-white," as Wither the poet calls it, has considerable beauty and many excellences. Alas! that we should be so apt to lose it when we begin to love it like the "dear gazelles." Another poet, evidently impressed with these views, thus sings his "Clay:"

"Thou cheering friend of many a weary hour,
I'll sing thy virtues in my humble lay;
Oft have I felt thy gentle, soothing power;
I do not scorn thee, though thou art but *clay*.

Far dearer thou to me than choicest work
From the skill'd products of Italia's land,
Or rich chibouque of the enamour'd Turk,
With endless tubes, and amber mouthpiece grand.

Companion thou hast been for many a year;
'Tis *I* have colour'd thy once fair face black;
I could not leave thee now without a tear,
Thou—the last keepsake of my old friend Jack.

He prized thee for thy shape—and then to hear
How oft upon thy merits he hath spoken!
Long may I smoke thee with my evening beer,
My own loved pipe!——Confound it! it is broken!"

By way of postscript, I will add a few jottings on some odds and ends connected with smoke and smokers. And first I cannot but compliment enterprising tradesmen on the ingenuity of device and excellence of execution displayed in the multitude of nick-nacks provided for smokers. Look where you will, you find in the shopwindows of the Metropolis articles, more or less Nicotian, to please our tastes or suit our convenience. Take, for instance, an establishment such as that of Messrs Thornhill and Co., of 144, 145 New Bond Street. I almost think there must be some enthusiastic lover of "the weed" in the management, who has devised or caused to be devised so many adjuncts of smoking, in wood or metal, or in both combined, that this establishment is almost a smoker's emporium. There is, for instance, the Raleigh Smoker's Knife, a wondrous instrument, with something like a dozen implements, most of which the smoker finds useful and even necessary from time to time—a very *multum in parvo*. Then there is the Roman Lamp Cigar Lighter for the table, in sterling silver or electro-plate; and a very pretty and ingenious Refuge Lamp, representing an ordinary gas light in the centre, with four posts round it, with a dipper or "lighter" in each. Then there is the Step Ladder Pipe Stand, a model of ordinary "steps" in polished oak, the steps being perforated

for pipe stems. Then again the Coalscuttle Cigar and Cigarette Box, in fine polished oak; the Smoking Companion, in nickel and ivory, or oak and nickel; and the Turnpike Cigar and Cigarette Holder, with lamp dipper, pipe rack, ash tray, and match box, all combining to represent that grand old highway obstruction which still remains as a memorial of the past in some benighted districts. Other ingenious devices, such as the Combination Cigarette Machine and Tobacco Box; the Spring Cigarette Case, which slides out but one at a time; the Automatic Cigarette Case; the different Cigar Cutters, in shapes of keys, horse-shoes, and lobster claws, &c.; the Match Boxes in forms of model elephants, pigs, &c., for wearing on watch-chains—all these and many more testify, as I have suggested, to some clever and enthusiastic smoker in the establishment, who specially busies himself in providing exquisite paraphernalia for smokers. But I must not forget what is called the "Ninepin Smoking Set"; and last, but not least, the ten guinea B. and S. Tray, in oak and nickel, containing an ice pail, spirit decanters, tumblers to match, stands for cigars, rests for sodas, seltzers, &c.,&c. This thoughtful combination is suggestive not only of drinking generally, but specially of drinking *with* smoking, and if any unsympathetic and uncharitable reader and non-smoker happens to come across these words, he will immediately say: "Ah! yes; smoking always leads to drinking." Quite so; so does eating, so does talking, so does walking, and a variety of other "exercises" in which the non-smoker indulges; but I venture to deny emphatically that in the ordinary and uncharitable sense of the words that smoking does lead to drinking. Drunkards may be, and very often are, smokers, but it is not their smoking makes them drink; and I think statistics would show that the worst drunkards are non-smokers. *Drinkhards* very often indeed are non-smokers, and it is very often the fact that they are non-smokers that has made them *drinkhards*. The majority of gentlemen being smokers, desire to smoke *very* soon after dinner, and when they begin to smoke they cease drinking, while the non-smokers go on soaking. But here, prehaps, I am again digressing. What harm, however, in taking a B. and S. from one of Messrs. Thornhill's trays when you are discussing your weed or pipe and the topics of the day? or what harm if instead of a B. and S. you prefer with your Havannah a glass of champagne, such as that which for the benefit of smokers and non-smokers Messrs. Roper Frères now supply—a champagne which, *me judice*, among the multitudinous "brands" which now court public favour, has fairly established its title to be called what it professes to be—*the* champagne of the day.

The professors also of the ceramic art have exercised their taste and skill in providing smokers with various fictile ware in the way of tobacco jars, spittoons, &c., &c. You have only to stroll through the well-known show-rooms of Messrs. Mortlock in Oxford Street and Orchard-street, and you will notice "The Lytton" jar, with the inscription on it, "The man who smokes," &c., quoted at the head of this chapter; "The Kingsley," with the inscription, "When all things were made,"

&c., quoted at the head of Chapter I.; "The Prince of Wales," and "The Bachelor," the latter with figures of cricketers in different attitudes on each of its panels—all very pretty articles.

As a smoker, and one who particularly indulges in Nicotian recreation in a railway carriage, I would tender my sincere thanks to Messrs. Bell and Black for having done so much for the whole company of smokers by the manufacture and world-wide distribution of their admirable wax vestas. I hardly know anything more offensive than the fumes of an ordinary fusee in a railway carriage or room; and from this abominable stench Messrs. B. & B. have delivered us by enabling us to get their vestas at almost all tobacconists, chemists, stationers', and other shops which deal in such articles. Their extensive factory at Stratford, E., is well worth a visit, if only to see the collection of pretty boxes and receptacles for matches of all shapes and sizes turned out by the firm. The crystallized tin pocket vesta boxes, in amber, blue, green, and grey, and plain metal, are exceedingly pretty little articles, and those with the patent slide are very handy; while the oval wood boxes (punched out of a solid piece) are admirable little companions for the waistcoat pocket, and can be refilled from the "blue paper stock boxes" as required. The cardboard and other boxes with birds and fancy pictures upon them are as endless in their variety as artistic in design and execution. I notice that Messrs. B. & B.'s enterprise has, among many well-merited recognitions, received the highest awards for their wax vestas, wooden matches, fancy boxes, and crystallized tinware, both at the Sydney Exhibition of 1879, and that at Melbourne in 1881.

Another benefactor to smoking humanity is Mr Hooper (Bartlett Hooper & Co., 43 King William Street, London Bridge), whose name I have associated from my boyhood (when I furtively enjoyed the surreptitious smoke) with aromatic cachous. In one's early smoking days it was often a matter of life and death to sweeten one's breath before entering the paternal, maternal, or preceptorial presence, and Hooper was then one's saviour from the taste of cane in another form to that in which we took it as a cigar. Many ardent smokers in their manhood much dislike the taste of tobacco in their mouths after they have finished their cigar or pipe. To them Hooper is a benefactor, and certainly no cachous are so pleasant and effective as his, while they are certainly free from any ingredients injurious to health. Considering how tolerant ladies as a rule are of gentlemen smoking, I think the least the latter can do after smoking is to sweeten their breaths. Mr Hooper first introduced his "*Cachou Aromatisé*" about the year 1844. The cachous were specially taken up in America, which is still the principal market for them, despite the heavy duty. The annual "turn-out" of Messrs. Hooper's manufacture is from 40 to 50 millions; and for the coating of these very nearly an acre of pure silver leaf is used every year.

And yet another benefactor to smokers is the firm of C. F. Brown & Co., of 2 Tower Royal, Cannon Street, E.C., who hold the first

place in the tinfoil manufacture for tobacco. The old-fashioned leadfoil was not only heavy and cumbrous, but there are strong grounds for believing that it was poisonous in its character. I will not go so far as to say that smoking tobacco wrapped in it ever actually killed anyone, but I can quite understand the injurious effects it might have under certain circumstances. This, however, has all been remedied during the last few years by the production of improved, brilliant, pure, and light tinfoil such as that manufactured by Messrs Brown & Co. Tobacco in packets requires some protection from the air in order to preserve its aroma and condition ; and the improved tinfoil being lighter is more economical, and an advantage to both tobacco manufacturers and consumers, while it also keeps its excellent colour under all conditions of atmospheric changes. The samples exhibited by Messrs Brown & Co. at various exhibitions (I have just been comparing them with the old-fashioned lead) are the best I have seen, and entitle them to the leading position they have taken among tinfoil manufacturers.

Tobacco pouches, boxes, and bags of an infinite variety in shape and material are offered to smokers. I think that taking them all round, the india-rubber pouches are the most convenient and serviceable, but the amount of rubber in some of them is so scanty that they are very apt to tear. The best I have come across are those manufactured by A. Oldroyd, 364 High Street, Stratford, E., who seems to have paid special attention to producing as good an article in this line as possible. His patent diaphanic " G. B. D." pouches—on which if you like you can have your name in raised latters—are excellently well made, and I might almost say worthy of the statesmen with whom Mr Oldroyd has connected them, as G. stands for Gladstone, B for Beaconsfield, and D for Derby. They might be called the " Coalition " pouches.

I notice that a new trade journal, under the title of *Tobacco*, has just made its appearance, and announces itself as a monthly. It seems to be on the lines mainly of the *Tobacco Trade Review*, and probably there is room for both these journals. The new paper seems carefully put together and well got up. If I may venture to make the suggestion I would advise the introduction of some "light reading" anent smoke and smokers, after the style of some of the writing in *Cope's Tobacco Plant*. It would then be acceptable to smokers in general as well as to " the trade." The offices of the new journal are at 23 Castle Street, Falcon Square, E.C.

And now I have come to the last paragraph of this little work, and it shall be a philanthropic one. If, as Bulwer says, " the man who smokes thinks like a sage and acts like a Samaritan," please let this little advertisement, most freely given, be taken as a small contribution on my part to an excellent charity called " The Tobacco Trade Benevolent Association" for the relief of the aged and necessitous members of the trade, their widows and orphans. If my humble recommendation of the association be the means of inducing some honest smokers to become subscribers, they directly, and I indirectly, will be acting like

WELLCOME LIBRARY INSTITUTE

Samaritans. I am glad to see that almost all the leading members of the trade in the Metropolis support the association, but there is room, and I may say need for the support of the smoking community in general, who can learn further of the objects of the charity by applying to Mr James Chambers, of the eminent firm of tobacco brokers, Grant Chambers & Co., 37 Fenchurch Street. There is no very great profit, I believe, to be got in the humbler branches of the tobacco trade, and therefore for smokers to contribute to an association which assists those who have been or are engaged in such branches, when the dark days of adversity, illness, or old age come upon them is indeed—

"*Ex fumo dare lucem.*"

W. THORNHILL & Co.

Beg to call attention to the New Diamonds,

DIAMANTÉ BRILLIANTS.

DIAMANTÉ BRILLIANTS have created an extraordinary sensation, and are rapidly and deservedly superseding real diamonds. Their cost is about 1-30oth. These magnificent stones first attracted notice at the Paris Exhibition, 1878, where they were exposed side by side with real diamonds of great value, and were awarded a Gold Medal; they are absolutely identical in size, brilliancy, and lustre with real diamonds of the first water, and almost defy detection, even Jewellers and Diamond Dealers having been deceived by them; they are immeasurably superior to real diamonds of second-rate quality. The Manufacturer guarantees the surprise and pleasure of Purchasers. These beautiful stones can be worn in the strongest daylight, which is practically the real test of perfection, and the most sceptical will be utterly deceived. They can be mounted side by side with real diamonds of the first quality and will be found undistinguishable therefrom. They are worn at Court, and upon all occasions. The prohibitive cost of real diamonds renders their acquisition impossible to all but the wealthiest, and the imitation diamonds hitherto sold are worthless, the deception being manifest to the most careless observer; the **Diamanté Brilliants** can, on the contrary, be worn with absolute and entire confidence at all times, and, as we have said above, defy the closest scrutiny. Purchasers invariably repeat their purchases. The investigations and labour of two generations have been expended in bringing these remarkable jewels to their present state of perfection.

Sample Stone, £30 Size, Post Free, on receipt of 4/, to any part of the World.

Illustrated Catalogue of Designs Post Free to any part of the World

WALTER THORNHILL & Co., Sole Agents for the United Kingdom

Silversmiths and Dressing Case Makers to Her Majesty the Queen, T.R.H. the Prince & Princess of Wales, & the Royal Family.

Post Office Orders Payable at General Post Office. Cheques crossed Sir S. Scott, Bt., & Co.

144 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1734.

DOMENICO PICCIRILLO,

41 & 43 WIGMORE STREET, CAVENDISH SQUARE, W.,

AND BROAD STREET, GOLDEN SQUARE.

ONE OF THE OLDEST ITALIAN WAREHOUSES IN THE KINGDOM.

ESTABLISHED UPWARDS OF SIXTY YEARS.

DOMENICO PICCIRILLO,

PURVEYOR TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN,

THE LATE QUEEN MARIE AMÉLIE,

AND

THE PRESENT EMPRESS OF AUSTRIA.

ITALIAN AND FRENCH SPÉCIALITÉS.

CHEESE, BUTTER, TEA, COFFEE, CHOCOLATE, PRESERVED FRUITS, HAMS, TONGUES, FARINACEOUS FOODS, MACCARONI, JAMS, JELLIES, &c.; PICKLES, SAUCES, SOUPS.

Confectionery of all kinds and of the highest quality only.

N.B.--EXTRA SUBLIME LUCA OIL

Selected and Shipped expressly for D. PICCIRILLO for upwards of 50 Years.

ICES SENT TO ALL PARTS OF ENGLAND.

KENT'S

199 HIGH HOLBORN.

KNIFE CLEANERS

PRICE FROM 25/ TO £14 14/0.

References can be given to Hotels and Private Families, where the same Machine has been in constant daily use over 30 years.

KENT'S

199 HIGH HOLBORN.

PATENT VENTILATED

REFRIGERATORS

Produce results in the Preservation of Fresh Provisions hitherto considered unattainable, and his system of Refrigerated Ventilation is recognised to be the only solution of the Preservation of Fresh Provision, and its application is extending wherever a dry, cold, preserving atmosphere is needed.

MANUFACTORY AND SHOW-ROOMS,

199, 200, 201, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON.



ENORMOUS SAVING IN FOOD.

No more Sour Milk or Cream.
No more Rancid Butter.
No more Bad Eggs.
No more Tainted Poultry.
No more Tainted Meat.
No more Tainted Fish.
No more Sour Hock or Claret.
No more Sourness in Soups or Pies.

NO MORE TAINTED FOOD OR SOUR DRINK OF ANY KIND

IF YOU WILL USE

GLACIALINE,

THE UNFAILING PRESERVATIVE OF

MILK, CREAM, BUTTER AND EGGS. MEAT, FISH, AND ALL FOOD,

TO WHICH WAS AWARDED

THE SILVER MEDAL, National Fisheries Exhibition, 1881.

GLACIALINE IS TASTELESS.
GLACIALINE IS ODOURLESS.
GLACIALINE IS HARMLESS.

GLACIALINE.—The "Lancet" of January 1st, 1881, says:—"A food preservative termed 'Glacialine' has recently been introduced to public notice, and has already acquired a deservedly wide reputation. It possesses the remarkable property of preventing putrefaction and obviating fermentative change in liquids and solid foods. These qualities, together with its perfect harmlessness when taken into the stomach, or when topically applied to the skin or mucous membranes, induced us to think that in suitable cases it might be used as a medicinal agent. Having had occasion within the last few months to treat a large number of cases of diarrhœa, especially in children, and finding some of these cases very intractable, we determined to try the effect of Glacialine, and the results have been highly satisfactory, and have far exceeded our expectations."

Sold by all Grocers, Chemists, and Italian Warehousemen, in Packets at 2s. and Canisters at 2s. 3d.

Sole Patentees and Manufacturers of GLACIALINE, the **ANTITROPIC COMPANY**
126 Renfield Street, Glasgow; and 20 Stamford Street, Blackfriars, London.

A. OLDROYD,

364 HIGH STREET,

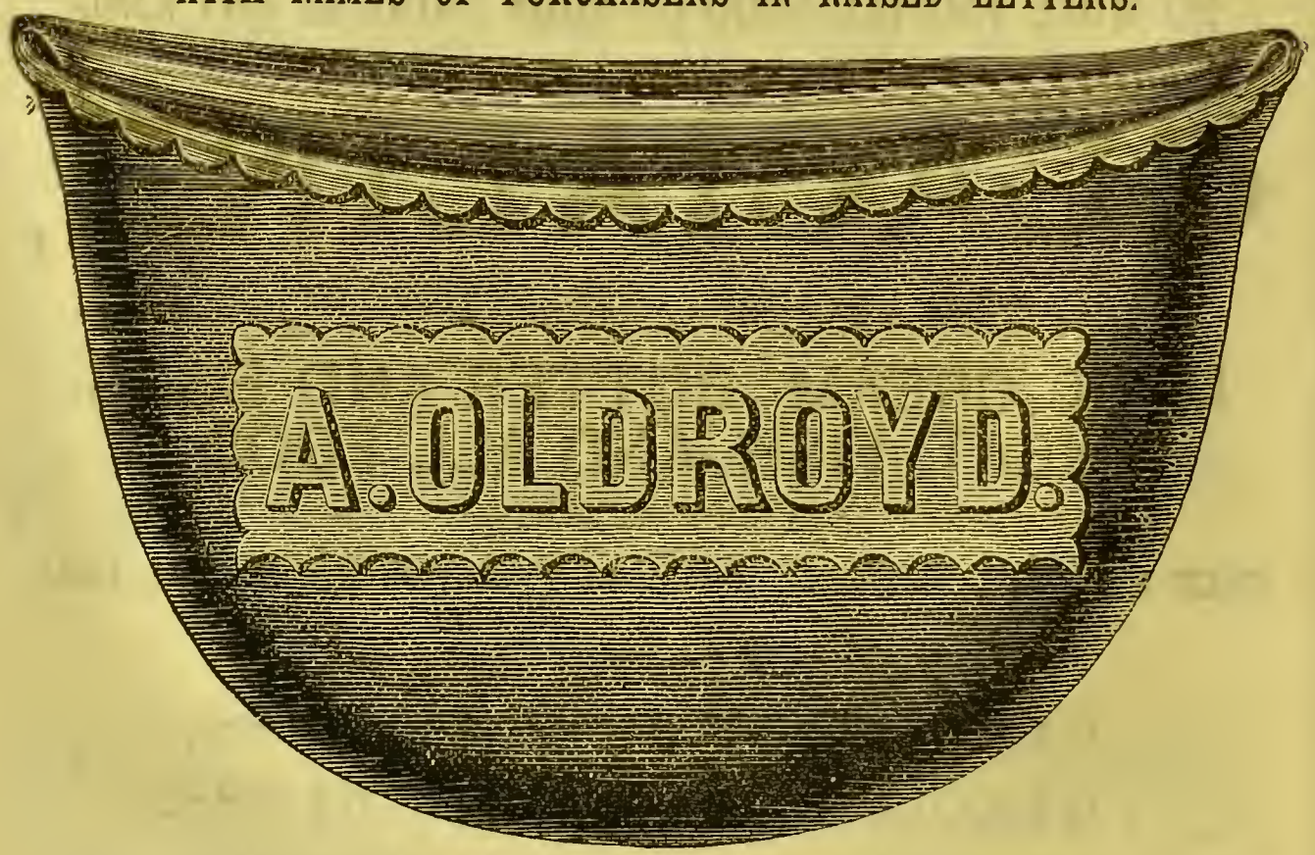
STRATFORD, LONDON, E.,

MANUFACTURER OF THE PATENT DIAPHANIC

G(LADSTONE), B(EACONSFIELD), D(ERBY),

TOBACCO POUCHES

WITH NAMES OF PURCHASERS IN RAISED LETTERS.



Can be obtained direct from the Maker at the undermentioned prices, on receipt of P.O.O. payable at Stratford (London, E.)

No. 3,	**price 2s.**	(will take a name of 9	Letters).			
,, 4,	,, 2s. 6d.	,,	,, 11	,,		
,, 5,	,, 3s.	,,	,, 12	,,		
,, 6,	,, 3s. 6d.	,,	,, 13	,,		

A. O. solicits the patronage of Smokers desiring a really good and pure India-rubber Tobacco Pouch with their own Name in full, in plain bold letters in relief; every Pouch guaranteed to be perfect in Manufacture and 40 per cent. more Rubber in them than in the ordinary thick Pouches.

Gentlemen when sending their names should write them in capitals, and abbrievate the Christian name as much as possible.

OVER 800,000 OF THESE POUCHES HAVE BEEN SOLD.

If you require a plain Pouch, same quality as above, ask your Tobacconist for one of Oldroyd's Diaphanic G.B.D. Tobacco Pouches. None genuine unless Stamped. Will be sent Post Free to any address on receipt of Stamps or P.O.O.

PRICES.

No. 3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
1s. 1¼d.,	1s. 6d.,	2s.,	2s. 6d.,	3s.,	4s.,	5s.,	6s. each.

A. OLDROYD, 364 HIGH ST., STRATFORD, LONDON, E.

THE

GRESHAM

LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,

ST. MILDRED'S HOUSE, POULTRY, LONDON, E.C.

FUNDS.

Realised Assets (1880)	£2,824,927
Life Assurance and Annuity Funds	2,738,200
Annual Income	563,120

The Directors are prepared to receive from Local Boards and Corporations applications for Loans upon Rates.

The Society also grant Loans upon Security of Freehold, Copyhold, and Leasehold Property, Life-Interests, and Reversions.

Prospectuses, Reports, and Proposal Forms can be obtained on application to the Society's Agents and Branch Offices, or to

F. ALLAN CURTIS,
Actuary and Secretary.

"Tobacco,"

A MONTHLY JOURNAL

FOR THE

Importer, Manufacturer, Retailer, and Consumer of Tobacco.

Offices--23 Castle Street, Falcon Square,

LONDON, E.C.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—In order to ensure prompt attention to all communications, it is particularly requested that they should not be addressed to any individual by name. All Reports, Telegrams, and Communications for Publication should be addressed "To the Editor of Tobacco," 23 Castle Street, Falcon Square, London, E.C. Letters relating to the Advertising, Publishing, Printing, or General Business Departments, should be addressed "To the Publisher."



FREEMAN'S

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY TRUE

CHLORODYNE.

It is allowed to be the greatest discovery of the present century, and is largely employed by the most eminent Medical Men, in Hospital and private practice, in all parts of the world, and is justly considered to be a remedy of intrinsic value, and of varied adaptability, possessing most valuable properties, and producing curative effects quite unequalled in the whole Materia Medica.

FREEMAN'S CHLORODYNE is the best remedy known for Coughs, Consumption, Bronchitis, and Asthma.

FREEMAN'S CHLORODYNE effectually checks and arrests those too often fatal diseases—Diphtheria, Fever, Croup, Ague.

FREEMAN'S CHLORODYNE acts like a charm in Diarrhœa, and is the specific in Cholera and Dysentery.

FREEMAN'S CHLORODYNE effectually cuts short all attacks of Epilepsy, Hysteria, Palpitations, and Spasms.

FREEMAN'S CHLORODYNE is the only palliative in Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Gout, Cancer, Toothache, Meningitis, &c.

FREEMAN'S CHLORODYNE rapidly relieves pain from whatever cause, allays the irritation of Fever, soothes the system under exhausting diseases and gives quiet and refreshing sleep.

MR. R. FREEMAN

Head Quarter Staff, Cabul,
May 31st, 1880.

Dear Sir,

It is with much pleasure that I am able to state that your Chlorodyne has been of special service to me in alleviating the wearisome spasms of Asthma which is here existent in an aggravated form ; many of my Patients now come and beg me to give them that medicine that always relieves them, and which I need hardly say is your Chlorodyne.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES W. OWEN, L.R.C.P. Lon., M.R.C.S. Eng.,
The Divisional Head Quarter Staff and Civil Surgeon, Cabul.

"THE TIMES," AUGUST 13th, 1877.

From our own Correspondent with the Russian Army.

Okoum, *July 25th*, 1877.

The want of sanitary arrangements in the Russian camp was dreadful, and had we remained there a few weeks longer, dysentery and typhoid fever would have played more havoc in our ranks than the bombs of the Turks. I myself acquired an unenviable reputation as a doctor, owing to my being provided with a small bottle of **CHLORODYNE,** with which **I effected miraculous cures.**

From GEORGE F. SMITH, ESQ., *Manager Licensed Victuallers' Pure Tea Company,*

MR. RICHARD FREEMAN, 9 Curtain-road, London E.C., *September 21st*, 1875.

SIR,—I have taken *your* invaluable 'Chlorodyne' (especially in the winter time) for some years. When I was advised to use Chlorodyne, I procured some of Collis Browne's. *It did me no good whatsoever.* I then bought some of *your* preparation. I firmly believe (under God) that it has been the means of prolonging my life. I am affected, or rather I *was* affected with severe 'Winter Cough,' and now, when supplied with *your* incomparable specific, I defy my old enemy, and drive him out of my system.

I know nothing personally of *you*, Sir, nor, for that matter, of Mr Collis Browne ; but I *know* that *his* preparation of Chlorodyne does *me no good whatsoever*, and it is with deep gratitude to you that I now pass my winters free from cough, and in comfort.

IMPORTANT CAUTION.

Four Chancery Suits terminated in favour of FREEMAN'S ORIGINAL CHLORODYNE, and against J. Collis Browne and J. T. Davenport. Lord Chancellor Selborne, Lord Justice James, and Lord Justice Mellish, condemned their proceedings, and ordered them to pay all costs of the suits.—Reported in the *Times* and other Newspapers April 29th and July 24th, 1873.

None genuine without the words "Freeman's Original Chlorodyne," engraved on the Government Stamp. *Testimonials from most eminent medical men accompany each bottle.*

Manufactured by the sole Inventor, RICHARD FREEMAN, PHARMACIST, 70 Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. Sold by Patent Medicine Dealers in all parts of the World, in Bottles, 1/1½ ; 2-oz., 2/9 ; 4-oz., 4/6 ; 8-oz., 9/ ; half-pints, 11/ ; and pints 20/ each.

REJECT ALL SUBSTITUTES.

1X-/-

H. Muspratt,
248, Earls Court Road,
S.W.5

